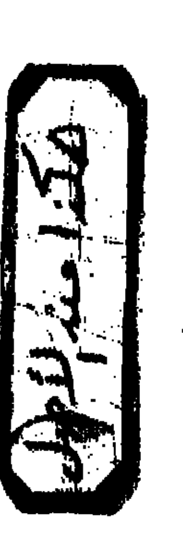


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Kohl works out an agenda for EEC summit

Frankfurter Allgemeine

...hancellor Kohl has worked out his agenda for the EEC summit in ...gart next month. He wants to make ...way on the issues of:

Unemployment among young peo...

EEC membership for Spain and ...gal;

Common agricultural policy;

Safeguards for the common market ...ch;

Community finance;

Britain's financial contributions.

...here is also another issue that the ...cellor personally wants to raise: ...rain and the tree-death epidemic.

...is is a king-sized agenda the extent ... scope of which only experts can ...e in view of the general lack of in... ...in European affairs.

...spate of preliminary activity might ...nably be expected in Bonn, yet ...seems to be no systematic coordi...on of differing views in the Bonn ...stries concerned.

...e various departments are already ...ning to blame each other in case ...summit doesn't live up to expecta...

...the Finance Ministry the overrid... consideration is extra burdens on ...Bonn budget, which are to be avoid... ...all cost.

...the Foreign Office officials are ...keenly aware of the possible poli... repercussions of an imminent col... ...of the European Community.

...ey are thus more readily disposed ...rds not allowing the sole political ...mplishment worth mentioning in ...war Europe to come a cropper for ...cial reasons.

...is being so, there are growing fears ...tuttgart summit might prove a fai... The president of the EEC Com...on, M. Thorn of Luxembourg, ex... a serious crisis unless something ...ne about Spanish membership and ...munity finances at least.

...ain's membership bid, which Bonn ...gly endorses, has brought to a ... all the differences between indivi... member-countries.

...ance is stalling on further expan... of the EEC; it would first like to ...its Mediterranean farm produce, ...h is unable to compete with ...n's, better protected by the Com... Agricultural Policy.

... would Italy and Greece, but the ...cost cannot be met by the EEC's ...ent budget. Besides, Spain and Por... ...l as new members will be expensive ...s.

...t Spain, which has been fobbed off ...years, must be given a straight answer, and it cannot be retained as a partner in Nato yet rejected as a partner in the European Community.

A decision on Community finances will likewise have repercussions: to refuse to pay more toward the cost of the EEC is in effect to say no to Spanish membership.

The European Community has become an annoying issue. The expense, the incomprehensible and costly agricultural policy and the lack of any stimuli that mean something to the man in the street have led to a decline in interest in the EEC even in Germany.

This detracts from the true value of the Community to the Federal Republic, for which it is of major importance both economically and politically.

The new Bonn government must make up its mind on policy toward Europe. It cannot be left to individual Ministries to pursue their respective interests heedless of an overall policy concept.

There were inconsistencies in this respect under Chancellor Schmidt. They cannot be allowed to continue.

When the concessions we invariably end up making are made too late they earn us neither recognition nor counter-concessions.

The Chancellor ought to aim at a more streamlined agenda in Stuttgart and he should issue stricter instructions on how to prepare for the summit.

A European debacle would be a poor start for the new Kohl government.

Kohl must have had a foretaste at his talks in London with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher of what lies in store for him at the Stuttgart EEC summit.

Although there was no lack of goodwill between him and Mrs Thatcher and they were agreed on many issues, views differed on what needed doing in the European Community.

Bonn's plans for a solemn declaration to set the seal on closer cooperation between Common Market countries encountered opposition in Whitehall.

What mainly interests Mrs Thatcher is clarification on Britain's 1983 contribution to the EEC kitty in Brussels.

She has been promised a rebate and is determined to get one in what may

Continued on page 2

Picture of contentment: Helmut Kohl and Amintore Fanfani in Rome. (Photo: dpa)

Chancellor has talks in Rome — with the usual results

Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger

Bonn Chancellor Helmut Kohl seems to bring bad luck to Italian governments. He has brought down two in two visits.

Just after he made his first official visit to Italy last year, the coalition of Republican leader Giovanni Spadolini fell. Talks Herr Kohl was to have had were cancelled.

Now the government of Christian Democrat Amintore Fanfani has fallen, just a matter of hours after Herr Kohl ended a visit.

Signor Fanfani has resignation and elections are to be held at the end of June.

Relations between Bonn and Rome are excellent.

There has been no change despite the hue and cry over the whereabouts of 41 missing drums of toxic waste from Seveso in northern Italy.

Both governments do not, of course, agree on every issue. Herr Kohl was reminded of the annual tussle over the EEC farm price review by farmers with placards proclaiming, in German: "German milk? No thanks!"

But this dispute was ignored by both heads of government and left to their respective agriculture ministers, while no public mention was made of the missing drums of toxic waste; they may not have been mentioned at all.

The two leaders, men so different in age, height and prowess at public speaking, were all the more emphatic in their references to common viewpoints.

Both were keen to see the solemn declaration on European Union signed at the Stuttgart EEC summit, partly because their Foreign Ministers, Herr Genscher and Signor Colombo, were jointly responsible for the draft.

But they harbour no illusions and are well aware there is still spirited resistance to the principle of majority decisions within the EEC and to any upgrading of the European Assembly.

Even the toxic waste debate produced a spin-off of common ground, as it happened, with both governments saying how keen they were on better legislation to cover this topic within the European Community.

Bonn and Rome have similar views on the Geneva disarmament talks. Their declarations differ only in tenor.

Herr Kohl missed no opportunity of reaffirming Bonn's determination to abide by both parts of the Nato missile modernisation resolution.

Signor Fanfani nodded approval and blithely praised the attitude of Italy's Western partners, which was "entirely in keeping with the expectations of public opinion."

This turn of phrase was entirely in keeping with the attitude taken by Foreign Minister Colombo, which is much

Continued on page 2

IN THIS ISSUE

■ WORLD AFFAIRS

East Bloc leaders learn to come to terms with their new boss

From Erich Honecker to Janos Kadar the men in power in Eastern Europe all made it to the top during the 18-year Brezhnev era.

Most owe their careers to him and had arrived at a working relationship with him through many meetings, including regular summer summits in the Crimea.

The East Bloc leaders have so far had little opportunity of getting to know Mr Andropov better. Until May 1982 the new Soviet leader was head of the KGB and as such not a very public figure.

The GDR's Erich Honecker is the first East Bloc leader to visit Moscow since the change of power in the Kremlin.

Just as Helmut Kohl in Washington sought to demonstrate German-American friendship, so Herr Honecker will have wanted to stress the special relationship between East Berlin and Moscow.

Just as the Federal Republic is Washington's major ally, so the GDR is Moscow's. Germany is a strategic point in East-West affairs.

When Herr Honecker and Mr Brezhnev last conferred in detail at the beginning of 1982, Mr Brezhnev was already *only occasionally* capable of communicating with others.

The crucial passage in their joint communiqué was:

"The development of the international situation will depend in many respects on how relations between European states with different social systems evolve. Detente was born in Europe and Europe may yet give it a new and powerful boost."

The icy cold of ties with Washington, the deep problems in relations with France and above all the change of government in Bonn have brought about a change in the situation from Moscow's point of view.

The consequence of this change ought to be a closing of ranks on the East Bloc's part, isolated as it has become.

A key factor in the Soviet assessment of the situation is the *Ostpolitik* pursued by the Kohl government, which is directly linked with intra-German ties.

In the Crimea Mr Brezhnev and Herr Honecker called on Bonn to reaffirm and expand the policy of peaceful cooperation.

From the Soviet and GDR viewpoint the extent to which the Bonn government keeps out of the cold of ties between the superpowers is of crucial importance.

Will Bonn be either able or willing to maintain its special relationship with Moscow and East Berlin regardless of ideological disputes and its alliance commitments to Washington?

Under Chancellor Schmidt there was a perceptible trend towards parting company with America, but this can hardly be expected to continue now power has changed hands in Bonn no matter how keen Chancellor Kohl may be on continuity.

The GDR is extremely interested in maintaining profitable relations with Bonn, which would be hard hit if tension between the superpowers were to have repercussions on intra-German ties.

The advantages East Berlin enjoys from intra-German trade, which is not run on a hard-currency basis, are increasingly important for a GDR perennially short of foreign exchange.

The Soviet leaders do not seem to be interested in a deterioration of relations with Bonn at present.

The harbour hopes that the Kohl government will, like its predecessors, pursue an *Ostpolitik* is keeping with German interests that differs at least slightly from that of its Western allies.

This means, for instance, the trade restrictions on which Washington continues to be keen. It also means missile modernisation and human rights in the East Bloc (the CSCE conference).

So Bonn was bound to be reminded, on the occasion of Herr Honecker's visit to Moscow, of the need for detente policy and for the continuation of a predictable *Ostpolitik*.

The reminder was bound to be coupled with polemics against [missile moder]nisation and encouragement [of ...] that aim to put paid to the N[...]tion.

For Bonn, where Chancell[or ...] due to visit Moscow in Herr H[onecker's] wake, the situation holds not[...]

Should Bonn not do as W[...] urges and Herr Kohl show un[...] signs of detente continuity or [...]sideration for the USRR and [...] relations with Washington, [...] reconsolidated, could be upse[t ...]

On the other hand any Bon[n ...]ment must think twice before [...]ing entirely the treaty-based [...] embarked on in the 1970s an[d ...] jeopardising progress in int[ra-German] ties.

The Germans are in a sp[...]tion that sets bounds to the[ir] leeway.

Peter [...]

(Mannheimer Morgen, [...])

Talks in Rome

Continued from page 1

more consistent than might be expected given such frequent changes of government in Rome.

In principle Italy has agreed to provide the United States with facilities for stationing missiles at a disused airfield near *Comiso in Sicily, but it would much prefer the Geneva talks to make this unnecessary.*

The two countries' opponents of missile policies have much less in common. In Germany the peace movement is preparing for the great debate; in Italy it is still largely insignificant.

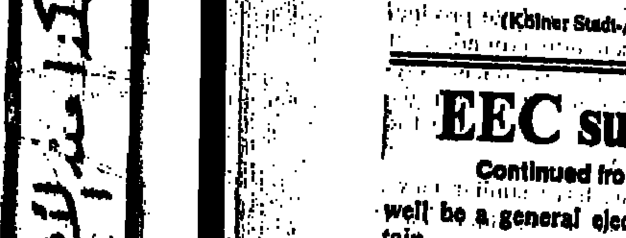
In Comiso, a small provincial town, the Mafia is said to have bought many plots of land on which to build modern housing and commercial facilities for the Americans.

Vague hopes of earning a little more money on the side offset many people's fears that the East might undertake a pre-emptive strike to knock out their missiles.

Only two Italian bishops have so far come out strictly against missiles. Surprisingly, President Pertini has joined them at the European Assembly in Strasbourg, where he called for the scrapping of all nuclear weapons.

Horst Schlitter

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 29 April 1983)



EEC summit

Continued from page 1

well be a general election year in Britain.

At the March meeting of EEC leaders in Brussels he optimistically announced that all major disputes would be resolved at the next summit in Stuttgart.

No-one will doubt the Chancellor's goodwill and commitment to European integration, but more complex issues are here at stake.

They have lately been interlinked and make up an ominous tangle within the European Community.

Heinz Stadlmann

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 27 April 1983)

Submarines in the Baltic: no limit to Soviet military arrogance

The Swedish protest in Moscow against constant violations of Swedish territorial waters by Soviet submarines — and the lying Soviet reaction to the protest — cannot be taken seriously enough in Europe.

If the outraged commentary issued by the Soviet new agency *Tass* is to be believed, the report by the Swedish parliamentary commission of inquiry lacks all foundation.

It has "evidently been initiated by Swedish military and other circles intent on harming relations between the two countries and on stepping up Swedish arms expenditure."

This juxtaposition of a warmongering Sweden and a peace-loving Soviet Union is so absurd that one would need to believe in flying saucers to take it at face value.

How else can one possibly reconcile Soviet denials and Swedish observation of espionage activity by foreign submarines that "are not members of Nato"?

The sound of submerged submarine engines and radio messages in Russian leave no doubt as to the origins of the subs.

Besides, one needs only to recall the case of the Soviet submarine that was stranded near the Swedish naval base at Karlskrona in autumn 1981.

There is only one interpretation to the attitude taken by the Soviet Union in the so-called Baltic sea of peace: there are no more limits to the arrogance and claims to power of the Soviet military.

Why should Swedish neutrality be respected more than that of non-aligned Afghanistan? No Swede needs to be told what to expect of the Soviet Union in wartime when Swedish waters are used for Soviet naval exercises in peacetime.

So the threat of overwhelming military might, which is the only pressure the ideologically and politically bankrupt Soviet Union has left to exert, is levelled not just at Scandinavia but at Europe as a whole.

To make the point clear Moscow makes no bones about either its naval or its nuclear arms build-ups in Europe.

But the Kremlin has more than once misjudged the mentality of other peoples, not just in Afghanistan. This shameless military pressure could mobilise powers of resistance Moscow does not imagine exist either in Sweden or in peace-loving Western Europe.

(Der Tagesspiegel, 28 April 1983)

Thousands t[ake] to the stre[ets] of Poland

Protest against General J[aruzelski], the Polish leader, co[uld] have been more effective tha[n on] May Day.

At the official demonstrati[ons ...]cribed the situation in Polan[d as ...] and normal, while in Warsaw [and other] cities tens of thousands of d[emonstra]tors took to the streets in supp[ort of the] banned trade union, Solidarity.

The day on which Comm[unist go]vernments are given to holding [organis]ed mass marches to demons[trate] solidarity with the people ch[...]ed in Poland how isolated, al[ienat]ed and unnatural the regime is.

Party officials, the benefi[ciaries ...] and small of the Communi[st ...] were a pathetic band left ve[ry much to] themselves.

The Solidarity banners wer[e ...]ed, in contrast, by families la[...] day best straight from church. [...] monstrators were neither hoo[ligans nor] provocateurs.

The resistance maintained [...] and this display of disciplined [...] was what evidently threw the [...]ties into panic in many places.

Militiamen laid into even the [...] groups of people, which hardly [...] what General Jaruzelski had [...]

The Poles demonstrated [...] that the situation in their cou[ntry is not] yet back to normal. The re[sistance is] alive and well.

The political situation still [seems ho]peless, but hope still prevails. [...] dictatorship to do with such a p[...]

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, [...])

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■ HOME AFFAIRS

Checkpoint deaths revive some old foreign policy chestnuts

[T]he Brandt government's policy of making treaties with East European [coun]tries was actively opposed by the [CD]U/CSU.

[As] the Opposition, the conservative [Unio]n questioned the motives. It was [sai]d that it was the hidden intention [to le]ad the Federal Republic to a posi[tion] halfway between East and West.

[It] accused the government of:

[Fa]iling to make full use of negotia[ting] possibilities, and

Accepting treaties which were not [satis]factorily worded.

[T]he struggle over the issue led to a [pre]mature dissolution of the Bundestag [and] an election. The voters confirmed [Bra]ndt's course.

[F]ollowing the election, the Opposi[tion] then in fact said that it would ho[nour] existing agreements if and when it [cam]e to power.

Even the chairman of the CSU, Franz [Jose]f Strauss, repeatedly said that he [wou]ld abide by the principle of *pacta [sunt] servanda*.

Chancellor Helmut Kohl followed [this] commitment last year when he took [offi]ce. He even repeated the words of [his] predecessor, Helmut Schmidt, and [said] that the predictability of German [pol]ics must reveal itself in continuity [of p]olicies towards both East and West.

[T]here is no doubt that Chancellor [Ko]hl, following his election victory, in[ten]ds to keep to his word.

[Th]is does not mean that there will be [no c]hanges in approach. Policy tools [will b]e applied differently in different [...]s.

[Af]ter all, when Helmut Schmidt suc[ceed]ed Willy Brandt as Chancellor [ther]e were also shifts of emphasis.

Although Schmidt began by showing [rest]raint in his assessment of to possibi[lities] created by the *Ostpolitik* he soon [emp]loyed the means of personal *Kanz[lerd]iplomatie* to impress his own politi[cal] mark on the shape of policies made.

[O]ne thing never changed during this [peri]od, however. That was the inclina[tion] of the SPD/FDP governments to [pla]y down setbacks and trivialise incon[sist]encies in the application of the Eas[tern] Treaties.

[If] possible, such things were kept out [of th]e public eye.

[Th]e CDU/CSU, on the other hand, regarded them as evidence of wrong assumptions by the makers of the policies.

The FDP/FDP government tended to shy away from the need to face up to unpleasant realities and defend the very principles upon which the *Ostpolitik* was based.

But, there were enough people in both political camps willing to view matters rationally.

Even though they may well have fought against the negative aspects in the application of the various agreements and were not willing to simply deny their existence, they did not fail to acknowledge the positive ones.

The growing number of such persons gave rise to the assumption that the change of government in Bonn would not have an immediate effect on the *Ostpolitik*.

It was assumed that the handling of such policies would be all the more cautious in the face of the growing shakiness of the international political foundations upon which such policies were once based.

The death of West German transit traveller Rudolf Burkert during questioning by East German border guards appears to have raised many questions on the domestic political front. It is a serious case. But initially there was a danger that it would not be treated as seriously as appropriate.

People living in Berlin are aware of the atmosphere surrounding the "circumstances" of transit traffic. They will find it easy to conjure up an image of the "circumstances" surrounding Burkert's death.

After having been informed of the individual details of the case, Chancellor Kohl decided to intervene at the highest political level in East Germany, making clear two things.

One: West German government, a party to the transit agreement drawn up in Berlin with the GDR, is entitled to make certain demands on its partner, at least to demand an explanation.

Second: the extent to which the GDR complies to such a desire can become a politically relevant factor to the government of the Federal Republic.

Whether as a result of this personal intervention by Chancellor Kohl or of the specific circumstances of the case itself, the East Germans have also made it clear that they cannot deny the gravity of the case.

This is not only confirmed by the large number of public statements issued by the GDR but also by the way this case is being treated in the joint transit commission and by the fact that a West German forensic doctor has been allowed to enter East Germany to investigate the case and its circumstances.

There is general recognition of the political relevance of the incident by the GDR. This is a fact, even if we must wait for a final assessment of the case.

This is undoubtedly a success on the part of the West German government, which made use of given possibilities at various levels without anticipating conclusive judgement of the case.

However, it will now have to face up to difficulties at home and the problems will centre around the very instruments used by the Federal governement to obtain this success.

The head of the CSU, Franz Josef Strauss, acted quickly. He grasped the opportunity to launch an attack on Chancellor Kohl.

In his opinion, the incident revealed the inadequacy of promises made by the Chancellor on the continuity of the *Deutschland- und Ostpolitik*. Indeed it showed the thoughtlessness of such statements.

These two policy areas must be dealt with in a completely different manner to the approach during the Brandt/Scheel and Schmidt/Genscher governments.

It is not difficult to see what is happening. Strauss is the Prime Minister of Bavaria. After the election, he would have like to have returned to Bonn in a Cabinet post.

But this didn't happen. Now he would like some sort of compensation. He would like to see a stronger CSU influence in Bonn in various fields including *Ostpolitik*.

Suddenly, the wide area of tension within the coalition, covered up during the speediness of the coalition negotiations, has re-emerged: the FDP at the one end, the CSU at the other, and Chancellor Kohl and his CDU in the middle.

The Chancellor of the government coalition must, therefore, face up to a test even before he delivers his statement of government policy in the Bundestag.

He must make sure that he keeps a tight grip on political leadership and does not allow his political style to be changed.

(Der Tagesspiegel, 24 April 1983)

[H]onecker stays at home: it's much more comfortable that way

[E]ast German Communist party leader and head of state Erich Honecker has turned down an invitation to the Federal Republic of Germany.

[Th]e reason given is an aggressive one [in li]ne with the motto: attack is the best [mea]n of defence.

[H]is visit has been made impossible [by] "the current state of relations bet[wee]n the two German states."

[T]he GDR blames the Federal Repu[blic].

[T]he fact that the two West German [citiz]ens who died within a few days of [one] another at GDR crossing-points [is] the real reason for the "current [state] of relations" is deliberately ignor[ed].

[In]deed, in an act of exoneration, GDR television almost presented such deaths of West German citizens as normal occurrences.

The GDR television programme, Aktuelle Kamera pointed out that last year 240 such deaths were recorded among transit travellers and visitors to the GDR.

What is more, 200,000 people die of a sudden heart attack in the Federal Republic each year.

(The GDR TV reporters could have added cynically, withouth having been "questioned" by East German border guards).

GDR leaders are doing their utmost to avert the damage done to the image of their state by the deaths in the offices of their border guards.

The reasons given by the East's news agency, ADN, for Honecker's decision to call off his visit show how sensitive the GDR is to the disappointed reactions to these incidents by the free western press.

Commentaries referred to the frequency and gravity of violations by GDR authorities of the spirit of existing agreements.

Chancellor Kohl said Honecker's visit had no "value in itself" and that clear words would have to be spoken.

This signalled to Honecker that he and the GDR would have to face the public criticism. He would be called upon to account for the harassments and inhumanities carried out in its name.

Honecker has cancelled his visit to avoid facing the music. There are signs of an Ice Age emerging between Bonn and East Berlin.

Vollrath von Heintze

(Hamburger Abendblatt, 29 April 1983)

East Berlin's border guards and the heart-attack syndrome

Two West German citizens within two weeks have had heart attacks following "detailed questioning" by East German border guards.

It would not be right to disregard the deaths in the interest of keeping the peace simply because this kind of thing happens elsewhere too.

It would also, however, be mistaken to treat the incidents as highly criminal acts in terms of international law as part of a "political change". This is favoured by Franz Josef Strauss without even being familiar with the exact circumstances of the cases.

Of course, we all know that no traveller enters into the lion's den of Eastern European border control without a pounding heart.

Indeed, it is claimed that even West German police have overstepped the mark in some cases and the brash Prussian tone of voice heard from certain officials in the Federal Republic is almost regarded as good form.

However, it is not officially known whether this has also led to heart attacks.

Of course, it is not our intention to trivialise activities against ordinary citizens by foreign authorities, whether in Washington or in Wartha.

After all, our criticism is not only levelled against the Wall, the barbed wire and the automatic exploding devices on the border, but also against the authoritarian methods of government and arrogant behaviour existing in neighbouring countries.

We may well now and again find ourselves over-reacting.

But in view of what has happened over the past 30 years, something ought to be done.

It is time that those who think of themselves as socialists and feel that they are the sole advocates of human rights began to think and act in a more humane and social way.

It is clear that the East German border officials do not carry out their unpleasant duty the way they do merely because this meets their own personal preference.

They get strict orders. The resultant behaviour can endanger lives.

It is correct for the West German government to repeatedly complain and demand detailed explanations.

After all, good relations is no excuse for a lax reaction. A country's first duty is to protect its citizens. Political considerations are inappropriate here.

On the other hand, we should not turn a molehill into a mountain for political gain at home.

Otherwise, we may find other countries arguing that we are still the vicious challengers we once were in the past.

Karl Ackermann

(Mannheimer Morgen, 28 April 1983)

■ DEFENCE

European MPs seek ways of reducing international arms trade

A group of Euro-MPs is trying to draw up a code with the aim of working out a way of reducing the arms trade with the Third World.

The group includes members of various political hues like British Conservative Adam Fergusson and German Social Democrat Heidi Wieczorek-Zeul.

Their motives are not the same. Idealists like Frau Wieczorek-Zeul, also known as Red Heidi, probably want the West to cut its sales, although it is the USA and the Soviet Union who are by far the biggest suppliers.

She and some others also want the develop a common EEC security policy.

Another aim is to try and change the views of anti-EEC Euro-MPs. These include Danes, British Labour members, and Greek and French Communists.

They form a group which regards the EEC as a common market at best but not a political union. They are all against the madness of the arms sales.

Frau Wieczorek-Zeul says in a report to the political committee of the European parliament that MPs in Paris and London are given either incomplete or no reports on arms exports.

She says that the Bonn government is required to keep at least two Bonn MPs informed on arms shipments.

She also says that the French Defence Minister, Charles Hernu, demanded that the procedure be changed. But the Paris government continues *with the old practice.*

The EEC governments have had plenty of experience with arms shipments to the Third World.

While the Schmidt-Genscher government in Bonn was doing its soul-searching as to whether to sell German Leopard tanks to Saudi Arabia and decided against it due to opposition from Israel and from their own parties at home, Britain's Margaret Thatcher was touring Arab countries and offering the British Challenger tank.

In 1981, the government in The Hague risked a massive diplomatic clash with Peking and went ahead to supply Taiwan with three submarines that would secure 1,200 jobs at home.



The German Leopard II tank . . . an issue revived (see story below).

(Photo: Sven Simon)

that many are now being bought by poor countries.

A major argument put forward by the Euro-MPs in favour of common EEC guidelines for arms exports is that arms cooperation between Community governments has of necessity become increasingly close.

This is partly due to the need to standardise Nato weaponry and partly to the hope of thus cutting down on production costs. Another reason is the expectation tht standardised European weapons systems could be used to persuade America to accept barter deals. As a result, more and more European weapons systems are being developed and produced jointly.

Among the examples are the British-German-Italian Tornado fighter plane, the German-French Alphajet, the German-French defence system against low altitude aircraft, Roland (which the USA was on the brink of buying), Belgian-French-Dutch minesweepers, German-Dutch frigates and the German-British-Italian 70mm field howitzer.

Such militilateral weapons development programmes will be expanded still further in the 1990s.

The Tornado was the first weapon where the three governme[nts] agreed that exports to non-N[ato coun]tries would have to be approv[ed by con]sensus.

The field howitzer was dev[eloped by] the same three nations. In 198[.] tish decided to export the [..] Saudi Arabia; Germany supp[..]ing officially but of necessity [..] the German firms Leitz and [..]tall to provide components wo[rth] half the total order.

What troubles the Euro-M[Ps] question as to how an agree[ment bet]ween the ten Community gov[ernments] should curb arms exports.

The Conservative Fergusso[n] his report to the European Pa[rliament] foreign trade committee tha[..] should naturally be allowed [..] EEC and Nato and that a lis[t of] countries enjoying a simila[r ..] should be prepared.

These other countries inclu[de Austra]lia, New Zealand and Japan[..] neutrals Sweden, Austria and [..]land. Fergusson leaves it open [..] additional countries could be [..]

Recent French arms shipm[ents to] China, Egypt and — despite [..]nings — Nicaragua show how [..] it will be for "left" and "right" [..]ments to agree.

In her report Frau Wiecz[orek-Zeul] tries to counter arguments tha[t] exports could create politica[l] influence and safeguard jobs.

The report also presents th[e] situation: 81.7 per cent of [..] arms exports go to the Thi[rd World.] The figure for France is 76.5 [..] for Italy 76.6 and for the Feder[al Repub]lic of Germany only 37.6 per c[ent.]

It is mot doubtful whether t[he Euro]pean Parliament will succeed [..] the other EEC nations by [..] Germany as an example.

The Bonn coalition of C[..] and FDP could welcome a fe[..]ment appeal to that effect as a[..] relax its own arms export resti[..]

Erich [..]

(Frankfurter Rundschau, [..])

Food for thought

The suppliers of arms are in good international company. In fact, even the Swedish moralists were upset when a deal involving Viggen fighter planes for India fell through. And it took massive pressure from his party to make Austria's Chancellor Bruno Kreisky abandon plans to supply the Argentinian dictatorship with Kürassier tanks made by the Steyr-Daimler-Puch works.

The Falklands conflict should have provided food for thought. While the British armada was on the way south, French Mirage and Super Etendard jets, acting on Mitterrand's orders, flew mock attacks to prepare the British seamen for the type of enemy aircraft that would attack them in the South Atlantic.

But the effects of the French Exocet missiles could only be judged through experience. They were so successful in Argentinian attacks on the British fleet

Move to change guidelines covering weapons exports

It is doubtful if Chancellor Helmut Kohl is grateful to fellow party member and foreign affairs expert Werner Marx for having revived the debate on German arms exports.

The subject was considered over and done with when the previous government under Helmut Schmidt passed its new guidelines on arms exports last spring.

Marx wants the guidelines to be relaxed. He has thus revived the issue of German Leopard tank shipments to Saudi Arabia.

There have also been other murmurings: a foreign policy paper involved in coalition negotiations mentioned a new attitude towards arms exports that would take financial and security considerations into account.

The CDU and the CSU have different ideas on what the paper means.

Then there had been some talk of promoting arms exports by providing export insurance cover through the government-owned Hermes Corporation —, something that is now done in exceptional cases only.

But SPD manager Peter Glotz and the foreign affairs spokesman of the FDP parliamentary group, Helmut Schäfer, criticised this. Economic Affairs Minister Count Lambsdorff (FDP) favoured it, Heiner Geissler, when he was CDU general secretary, last year came out against any relaxation.

This makes it obvious that views on the issue go across party lines.

The new guidelines that were drafted last year, prompted by the Saudi Arabian wish to buy German tanks, were hammered out between SPD and FDP. The proceedings were closely watched by the public.

Helmut Schmidt and the FDP leader, Hans-Dietrich Genscher, both of whom originally favoured giving the green light to the deal with Saudi Arabia, later changed their minds in the face of tough resistance.

Schmidt, who frequently described the guidelines as "rubber regulations," interpreted them at the time as ruling out the sale of tanks to Saudi Arabia.

The major elements of the guidelines included provisions approving the supply of arms to Nato and similar countries while restricting shipments elsewhere.

Among the exceptions listed that might have applied to the Saudi Arabian deal were: vital foreign and security policy interests of Germany and consideration of the interests of the alliance.

If discussion over this issue persists, it could create problems for Kohl. It could mean a new clash between the coalition partners and withi[n the go]vernment parties.

Second, it is unlikely that th[..] will show any sympathy for a r[..] of the export rules because th[e] growing sensitivity towards an[ything to] do with arms and the possibl[e deploy]ment in this country of new US [..]

Third, the arguments again[st step]ped-up up arms exports have g[..] strength. The argument that [..]ports will safeguard jobs has ne[..] convincing. The situation in the [Middle] East, a crisis area par excellence [..] explosive and precludes a Ger[man in]volvement through arms exports.

This is particularly so in view [of the] fact that there is no overall [..] concept on this issue.

The power of the Opec ca[rtel and] hence of the Saudi Arabians ha[s dimi]nished. What is more, coopera[tion in] the energy and monetary sect[ors has] been splendid even without ar[ms ship]ments.

The chairmen of the coalition [..] will have to take this into accou[nt when] discussing their foreign policy [..]

Eberhard Wi[..]

(Handelsblatt, [..])



THE HITLER DIARIES

Scepticism increases: many questions remain to be answered

[Th]e furore continues over the claims by Hamburg magazine *Stern* that it has [Hit]ler's diaries. *Stern* has begun publishing excerpts as the debate gets hotter. [Ex]pert opinion is divided. Here, a noted German Hitler expert, Joachim C. [Fes]t, says what he feels. Fest wrote a biography of Hitler in 1973 that has [be]en translated into 15 languages. He is now a managing editor of *Frankfurter [A]llgemeine Zeitung.*

[T]here are strong reasons to say that the Hitler diaries are authentic. One [is th]at there are so many. Surely a for[ger] would have limited himself to a few [vol]umes only, because each extra entry [heig]htens the risk of error in a detail.

The findings of the three grapholo[gist]s support the claim. So does the [con]dition of the diaries and the additio[nal re]marks made by Hitler on what are [said] to be hundreds of pages to give [hi]m the OK for the printers.

Yet substantial doubts remain, intial[ly] of a psychological nature in connec[tio]n with what we know about Hitler's [per]sonality.

Anyone who has dealt with him in [gre]ater detail will have noticed time and [ag]ain that he must have had a patholo[gic]al inclination to conceal himself, his [fee]lings and what motivated him.

No other figure in accessible history [has] been known to convert such a wide [ran]ge of anxiety into such powerful [nee]ds for stylisation.

He more than once said a statesman [mi]ght never to commit himself to writ[ing], especially on personal matters, and [cha]racteristically, next to no letters [wri]tten in his own hand have survived.

It is also worth noting that years ago, [wh]en it was first rumoured that Hitler [ha]d kept detailed diaries, Albert Speer [sai]d he felt the idea was out of the ques[tio]n.

This all being so, it is surprising that [Hit]ler is now said to have kept up the [hab]it until only weeks before his death, [at] a time when the end was inevitable [an]d the risk of his diaries falling into [un]authorised hands grew greater each [da]y.

These doubts are reinforced by the [fac]t that from the second half of the [wa]r Hitler suffered increasingly from a [par]alytic tremble that must have made [it e]xtremely difficult for him to write.

In addition, a convincing explanation [has] yet been given for the lacuna bet[wee]n the recovery of the diaries and [thei]r discovery by *Stern* reporter Gerd [Hei]demann.

might be by the sheer good luck of having unearthed such material, it calls for a slightly more detailed acquaintanceship with the state of research into the subject before sweeping claims can be made. In this case the claim is that there must in part, on the strength of the documents newly discovered, be a complete rewrite of the history of the Hitler era.

Unless all the signs are deceptive this will prove not to be necessary after all. The only sensation about a find that has been presented in such sensational terms will probably be that Hitler for years succeeded unobserved in keeping a diary.

Even this presupposes that the diaries are authentic, and it is hard indeed to believe that fresh aspects of Hitler's character will come to light over and above the picture we already have.

What has so far been published as his diary judgements on his closer associates, such as his views on Himmler and Bormann, in no way clashes with what has long been known.

A new insight that contradicts the prevailing view is that Hitler know about and approved of his deputy Rudolf Hess's flight to Britain just before the invasion of Russia.

Yet even this point does not come as such a surprise as it has been made out to be. Besides, most historians have always exercised suitable restraint on the issue.

The most surprising aspect, and little short of hilarious for those in the know, about the diaries is the dramatic background to their "discovery."

The *Stern* reporter is said to have been put on the scent of the diaries by a telephone call after months of research in the Federal Republic, the GDR, Spain and South America.

I was also rung several years ago and offered material that clearly hailed from the same source. It took me neither extensive travel all over the world nor talks with SS generals and close associates of Hitler's to get a look at some of the documents.

They included the notes that substantiated Hitler's knowledge of Hess's mission to England.

My conclusion at the time was that while a not inconsiderable part of the material carried conviction, the doubts prevailed.

At about that time Stuttgart historian Eberhard Jäckel was shown a volume of Hitler's alleged diaries. His initial scepticism was heightened by a handwritten poem entitled *Der Kamerad* Hitler was purported to have penned in 1916.

It was to have been published in a collection of documents that has since appeared but promptly turned out to be identical with a poem by Herybert Menzel dated 1936.

As Menzel was born in 1906, Hitler could neither have copied it nor have written it himself.

Jäckel's misgivings were strengthened by a covering note on NSDAP head office notepaper confirming that the poem was written by Hitler. This note must have been a forgery too.

Closer scrutiny revealed that a number of other documents from this particular source were extremely doubtful, to say the least, and there could be no ruling out the possibility that at least part of it had been written after the event.

This, incidentally, accounts for the opinion the Stuttgart historian ventured to give without having personally seen the diaries, as *Stern* editor-in-chief Peter Koch scathingly commented.

Jäckel had longstanding personal experience of this particular source and did not feel it to be strong on credibility.

Publication delayed

Scepticism about the diaries' authenticity has gained ground. The *Sunday Times*, which planned to publish extracts in Britain at roughly the same time as *Stern* serialised the diaries in Germany, has announced its intention of postponing publication to allow time for clarification.

Stern would do well to take Oxford historian Alan Bullock's advice and submit its material to an international commission of experts for scrutiny.

They would soon find out, by formal analysis and by comparison with other material, whether misgivings were justified. In the meantime the greatest conceivable restraint ought to be exercised.

Joachim Fest

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 27 April 1983)

Change of heart

[B]ritish historian Hugh Trevor-Roper, [now] Lord Dacre, was after initial inves[tiga]tion convinced of the diaries' au[then]ticity.

But at a press conference he then said [he] had doubts and regretted that the [mag]azine had given journalistic effect [prio]rity over stricter scientific conside[rati]ons.

There certainly are a number of an[no]ying aspects of the circumstances in [whi]ch the material was given its first [pub]lic airing.

Lord Dacre was right in wondering [wh]y competent specialists had not been [cal]led in beforehand.

No matter how overwhelmed one

The authenticity of the Hitler diaries unearthed by *Stern* magazine has been given a setback. British historian Hugh Trevor-Roper says they might be forgeries.

Trevor-Roper, now Lord Dacre, wrote in *The Times* on 23 April that he had examined the diaries and was convinced they were genuine.

But two days later he admitted they might not be.

If they were forgeries, he is reported as having said, then the forgers had succeeded in carrying out an extremely difficult operation.

Stern still believes the diaries are genuine, it said on German TV.

In the final days of the war, Lord Dacre began studying the final weeks and months of the Führer. He compiled a report for Whitehall. It was commissioned by the British intelligence services and formed the basis of his book *Hitler's Last Days*.

Stern says the diaries consist of A 4 size notebooks consisting of between 60 and 100 pages. They were tied in cord and embellished with the eagle and swastika emblems.

Hitler made his entries in black ink and signed most pages. He is said to have kept the diaries from 22 June 1932 to mid-April 1945.

There were also two separate notebooks about Rudolf Hess's flight to Britain and the bid to assassinate Hitler, on 20 July 1944.

The diaries and other material were to have been flown from Berlin to Ainring airfield, near Salzburg, in April 1945.

'Stern' sticks by its claim despite the doubts

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But the plane, a Junkers 352 flown by Major Friedrich Gundlfinger, did not get there. For decades it was missing without trace.

Stern says investigation has revealed that Gundlfinger crashed in the early hours of 21 April 1945 in a wood near Börnersdorf, which is now in the GDR.

Stern reporters are said to have seen his grave there. They had spent three years trying to find what had become of the material that was on board the aircraft.

Their quest had taken them to Austria and the two German states, Switzerland, Spain and South America.

Graphologists of international repute had confirmed the authenticity of the handwriting.

Werner Maser, the historian and Hitler specialist, categorically denies the existence of any such diaries. He bases his conviction on unpublished diaries he has of Hitler's officials and of Martin Bormann.

Since January 1943, Professor Maser says, Hitler could not to write with pen and ink becuase of his neurotic tremor. From then on he only used lead or coloured pencils.

Asked on German TV whether he felt the diaries might be forged, Professor Maser said there was a workshop in Potsdam, in the GDR, where Hitler portraits, letters and notes were forged to earn hard currency.

David Irving, the British historian, also feels the diaries cannot be genuine.

Last November he says he was given 800 pages of photostats of similar material and reached the conclusion that it was suspect.

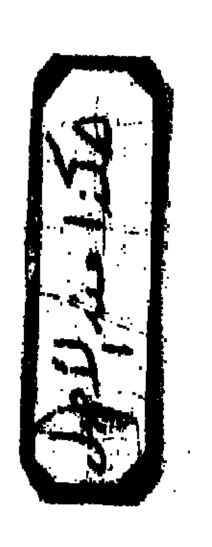
German historians Helmut Krausnick and Eberhard Jäckel are also sceptical. Krausnick says there has yet to be the slightest indication that Hitler ever kept a diary.

Hitler's Luftwaffe adjutant, Nicolaus von Below, has told *Bild am Sonntag* it was out of the question Hitler could have kept a diary.

"We often sat together until three or four in the morning," he said, "before Hitler went to bed. He was left with no time in which to write anything. It is all a pack of lies."

Uwe Bahnsen

(Die Welt, 25 April 1983)



■ TRADE

That gas deal with the Soviets: predicting consumption is Europe's problem

American concern for Europe is touching: they don't want Europe, Germany in particular, from becoming too dependent on the Soviet Union for natural gas.

So the Reagan Administration fought against the West European gas-for-pipes deal with the Russians and introduced an embargo.

The pretext: Western Europe's energy supply would become vulnerable if it too much of its energy were imported from the Soviet Union.

What really worried the Americans was that the gas deal would provide the Soviets with the foreign exchange they need to finance their arms build-up and, above all, buy Western know-how.

But now the Washington administration has come to terms with the gas deal. It might even be indulging in a bit of *schadenfreude*.

The American press has for some time been speculating whether the Europeans have not bitten off more than they can chew.

The fact is that when the negotiations began, Europe's gas buyers based their estimates on forecasts of energy needs that now seem greatly exaggerated. And buying too much gas at excessive prices could become a costly business.

But the companies actually involved in the deal are unperturbed. Ruhrgas AG chairman Klaus Liesen said a year ago that he was surprised that others should be worried on his behalf: "We're constantly asked by worried people whether we haven't bought too much. But we ourselves are quite happy with our buying policy."

But he does not deny that when the talks began his company operated on different assumptions.

A Ruhrgas paper in February 1981 said about the deal with Russia: "The German natural gas industry anticipates selling the equivalent of an annual 85 million tons of coal by the end of the 1980s."

But this is illusory today. Latest forecasts by Ruhrgas itself speak of 60 to 70 million tons of coal equivalent. And other forecasts are similar.

This amount of gas has already been contracted for. And if the German gas companies make full use of their contracts with suppliers in the Netherlands and Norway and their previous contracts with the Soviet Union they can obtain the annual equivalent of 65 million tons of coal equivalent.

But this figure is already 20 per cent higher than the 54.5 million tons of coal equivalent sold in Germany last year.

At first glance it would therefore appear that the 10.5 billion cubic metres (about 13 million tons in terms of anthracite units) that have been contracted for with Moscow are redundant.

'Take or pay'

The additional Soviet gas that is to flow into this country — initially in small quantities — starting in the autumn of 1984 and rising to the full contracted volume by 1989 must be bought and paid for under the "take or pay" clause of the contract.

The purpose of this clause is to protect the supplier's huge investment.

After all, the supplier has to develop the gasfields and build the costly pipeline that will take the gas to the buyers.

It would be unfair in these circumstances to refuse to buy the gas. The greater the supplier's investment, the greater his interest in selling as much as possible.

The Soviets have to make larger investments than any of Germany's other gas suppliers. This applies particularly to the fourth gas deal that provides for

DIE ZEIT

the construction of a 5,000-kilometre pipeline from Siberia's Yamal Peninsula to Western Europe.

Though Ruhrgas says that this latest deal is more flexible than the previous three, there is nevertheless little scope for price fluctuations.

If the German buyers want to take delivery rather than just pay, they must either increase their sales to get rid of the surplus gas or they must cut down on purchases from other suppliers.

With declining sales in the past couple of years, the second alternative has already been successfully practised.

But purchases from Norway cannot be pared down for the same reason that applies to Russia: heavy investment.

This does not apply to the Netherlands or to German producers. In fact, neither the Dutch nor the German producers are particularly interested in selling their gas supplies as quickly as possible.

Their attitude is prompted by the need to safeguard the energy supplies on the one hand and, on the other, speculation that energy prices will go. Falling energy prices in the past few months in no way change this assessment.

Technically, it is easier for the Dutch than for the Germans to cut down on production. Most of the Dutch gas comes from a single field near Groningen and production there can easily be regulated. This is somewhat more difficult in Germany but even here there are no insurmountable obstacles.

It should therefore be possible to buy additional gas from the Soviet Union even if energy consumption does not rise at the anticipated rate.

Gas is advancing inexorably in both industry and private homes. [...] past warm winter and the [...] have prevented gas consump[...] rising.

It was therefore of little use to [...] lities companies providing gas [...] number of gas-heated homes [...] by 300,000 to close to six milli[...] average gas consumption actu[...] down.

But what about prices? Is the [...] danger that gas will be unable [...] pete with oil if oil prices contin[...] and that the gas business will [...] with the quantities of gas it co[...] for?

Here, too, the industry is [...] brush aside misgivings by poi[...] flexible price clauses in the con[...]

In the past, these clauses have [...] nefited the consumer. Whenever [...] ces went up, gas prices also [...] though somewhat later.

Both the Russians and the D[...] gotiated deals with their c[...] whereby the price adaptation [...] nisms were changed in their [...] when the oil price rose more [...] than anticipated.

By the same token, this pe[...] gas prices to oil prices means [...] prices must go down along wi[...] for oil, except in cases where [...] mum price has been agreed on.

Such minimum prices exist [...] fact the precondition for the su[...] accept the risk of investing here.

But, according to Ruhrgas, [...] deal with the Soviets stipulates [...] low minimum price that there [...] no problems even should the [...] crude drop to $20 per barrel.

But should even this [...] adaptation prove inadequate, [...] tracts provide for the deals to [...] gotiated. What good would [...] Russians to bankrupt Ruhrg[...] would only lose their best cust[...] most important market: Germ[...]

America's worry about quan[...] prices is therefore quite sup[...] And Ruhrgas rejects the conte[...] the West European gas industry [...] ten off more than it can chew — [...] terms of prices and quantities.

Heinz-Günter K[...]

(Die Zeit, 22 [...])

The lessons behind varying prices at the petrol pump

Prices for petrol and light heating oil are rising again after a period of decline.

One reason given is transport problems due to the flooding of the Rhine. But this alone is unlikely to be responsible.

The oil industry has a vested interest in higher prices because, as spokesmen say, the industry has lost billions.

Before the last winter, the industry tried to raise petrol prices against market forces and failed.

Since the Opec countries urgently neede money, they flooded the market with cheap crude and prices fell more steeply than at any other time in the past few years.

The beneficiaries were the private consumers. But what is even more important is the desirable effect lower oil prices have had on the economy as a whole. Here, it was the German balance of payments that benefited.

This, in turn, enabled the Bundesbank to reduce interest rates and this, in its turn, reduced the financing costs for investments.

But the market for oil products does not depend on the cost of crude only. It also depends on supply and demand and on psychological reactions.

A telling example is hoarding. When heating oil consumers believe that prices are about to rise, they stock up. This makes prices go up.

The more tangible conditions on the oil market have also changed. The quantities available on the Rotterdam spot market have evidently declined in the past few weeks. At the same time, the trade has begun restocking.

The start of the holiday season with its extra car traffic has provided the oil companies with a good opportunity to raise petrol prices.

Even so, it would be wrong to assume — not only for psychological reasons — that the period of declining or at least stable prices is over.

There could be another glut in the next few months and prices would come down again.

Though ultimate investment decisions are made by industry, it is up to the politicians to say what they expect from the industry.

It would be disastrous if the temporary easing of the oil prices were to make us reduce efforts to develop alternative sources of energy.

Unfortunately, it seems this process has already begun. We must also not write off the use of nuclear energy but keep reviewing the issue, as needed.

According to Esso AG estimates, sales of oil products in Germany in the year 2000 will be only two-thirds the record volume of 1973.

The estimate anticipates that by then only one out of three instead of today's one out of two homes will be heated by oil.

Power stations and industrial users will increasingly switch to other sources of energy. Petrol consumption is also likely to go down due to more economical cars and falling annual mileage.

Though ever new oil and gas deposits will be developed in such distant places as Siberia, Canada, the Midd[...] Australia or offshore, the cost of [...] oping these fields is rising and the [...] nology is becoming more compl[...]

According to American estima[...] world-wide investment (witho[...] East Bloc) needed to open up the [...] posits is an annual DM20bn.

Fossil fuel deposits are fini[...] though coal deposits should be [...] cient for the next two hundred y[...] the present rate of exploitation.

The burning of these fuels ca[...] creasing pollution through carb[...] sulphur dioxide, making it neces[...] promote alternative sources of [...] such as hydrogen, biomass, sola[...] gy, heat generated by earth, the s[...] wind.

The world's energy policy ma[...] thus faced with many proble[...] clashing interests. In any even[...] term planning is needed.

Close cooperation is needed be[...] governments and the private sec[...]

Short-term declines of price[...] glutted markets must not be pe[...] to interfere with such efforts.

The next energy crisis is only [...] around the corner.

Volker [...]

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 16 April [...])

BUSINESS

AEG-Telefunken 100 years old but no one's lighting the candles

EG-Telefunken was 100 years old last month. But nobody was in a [...]d to celebrate.

[N]ot the workers, many of whom still [...] for their jobs.

[N]ot the banks.

[N]ot the company's suppliers (who [...] agreed to settle for 40 pfennigs in [...] mark owed to them.

[N]ot the stockholders, who have not [...] a dividend in year they have had to [...]p with a capital cut).

[N]ot the management, which had to [...]ly for composition proceedings in [...]

[...] there is any reason to rejoice at all [...] only that the company is still alive. [...]y a few months ago, the survival of [...]many's second-largest electrical [...]pany was on a razor's edge.

[B]erlin engineer Emil Rathenau [fo]unded the Deutsche Edison-Gesells[cha]ft für angewandte Elektricität DEG, [wit]h the help of 15 banks and private [in]dividuals in 1883.

[E]lectricity was advancing in huge [stri]des. DEG anticipated this and, in [18]87, changed its name to Allgemeine [Ele]ktricitäts-Gesellschaft (AEG).

As early as the turn of the century, [the] company was producing a wide [rang]e of engineering products, includ[ing] major electrical plants, refrigerators [an]d even cars and aircraft.

Germany's largest electrical company today, Siemens, has frequently played an important role in AEG.

The two electrical giants have drifted apart, but nevertheless a certain kinship remains.

Werner Siemens, who founded the company that still has his name, also played a major role in the founding and the first cautious steps of his main competitor.

He assured Emil Rathenau that his company would not produce light bulbs by the method developed by Edison; and he agreed to provide Rathenau with all the machinery and equipment needed to make the bulbs. Only thus was Rathenau able to raise the five million marks to found DEG.

AEG was to have many subsequent connections with Siemens. For example acting under considerable political and military pressure — they combined their radio telegraphy workshops and founded Telefunken GmbH.

They also cooperated in other fields. One result was the establishment in 1919 of Osram GmbH.

But disputes led to repeated separations. During World War I, the companies decided to arrive at a final arrangement. Siemens let Telefunken become a wholly owned AEG subsidiary while AEG relinquished all financial interest in Siemens. In 1975, AEG transferred its Osram stock to Siemens.

The AEG-Siemens cooperation in the power station field was also rather ill-starred. AEG withdrew in 1976, selling its stock in their joint subsidiary, Kraftwerkunion, to Siemens at a loss estimated at DM1.7bn. In its 100-year history, AEG has developed into one of the world's major companies in its field. But its history has also been marked by a series of setbacks and rescues. Apart from the capital consolidations necessitated by the two world wars, 1936 also saw a 3:1 capital reduction from 185 million to 61.7 million reichmarks.



Goddess of Light . . . AEG-Telefunken's trade mark. (Photo: AEG-Telefunken)

The company, which at that time was already operating on a global scale, was drawn into the vortex of the Depression.

From 1930, it could no longer pay dividends and had to balance its books by dipping into reserves. Later, the books showed actual operating losses.

The company weathered this phase (which was rather similar to the past few years), coming out relatively unscathed — primarily because the banks, urged by the government, did not press for the repayment of loans.

AEG has played a major role in the development of electrical engineering. It was one of its engineers who in 1890 developed alternating current; and, since the early 1920s, the company's research and development departments have concentrated on radio, film and, later, television.

The first AEG radios came on the market in 1922; and at the 5th German Radio Show in Berlin in the late 1920s, AEG demonstrated the first television transmission.

At the 1936 Olympic Games in Berlin, the first electronic television camera was used for direct transmission.

The end of World War II found AEG in a worse position than any other major German electrical company because 90 per cent of AEG's factories were in today's East Germany or East Berlin.

The company was almost down to zero when its management opted for a sweeping reconstruction in all major fields of electrical engineering.

By 1958, when AEG celebrated its 75th anniversary, the company was a universal enterprise in this branch of industry.

Its 24 factories produced just about everything electrical engineering can produce: household appliances, small radio valves, major plant and equipment.

The decline began only a few years later, in 1961, with the company's first management crisis.

Ever since, what has become known in the trade as the "chief executive malaise" has been plaguing the company, giving rise to constant rumours.

Frequent changes on the management board have led to wrong policies.

The board made the mistake of orientating itself too much by the management of Siemens.

In its race to catch up with Siemens, AEG entered into many a premature commitment.

The disastrous ambition to overtake Siemens made the AEG executives put sales before profits.

It was during this time of rivalry with Siemens that AEG took over such major home applicance companies as Zanker, Neff and Küppersbusch, paying for the equities with borrowed money.

During the high interest phase, the company was virtually suffocated by its DM5bn debt. All efforts to outperform Siemens and become the nation's number one failed.

The present chief executive, Heinz Dürr — unwittingly; it wasn't his fault — did, however, achieve a record with the nation's largest insolvency proceedings:

Telefunken became part of AEG in 1967.

After resuming operations in 1945, the company pioneered technical development in its field. It was instrumental in developing the Pal colour TV system and the video-disc (together with the British Decca) which hit the market as far back as 1975, far ahead of the competition.

But even the Pal system was unable to prevent AEG-Telefunken from operating at a loss; and the video-disc proved a commercial flop. The cream in this field — if there is any cream — is now being skimmed off by others.

The rapid decline and near demise of the company, together with frantic rescue attempts, took place in full public view.

But the company's 100th year has also had its positive aspects: the court approved the composition offer and the participation of the French Thomson-Brandt in Telefunken provides the opportunity for a new beginning.

Peter Roller

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 19 April 1983)

■ PERSPECTIVE

Clues about today revealed as Warsaw gathering looks back 40 years



The Warsaw conference on Nazi crimes in Poland was not one-sided; nor was it used politically, despite whatever propaganda aims there might have been.

This is the opinion of experts who went to the conference, held to mark the 40th anniversary of the Warsaw ghetto uprising. Papers were read and debates held as an introduction to the anniversary agenda.

It was a four-day gathering addressed by historians and lawyers, journalists, together with people from the era.

Jewish visitors came from around the world.

Two days after the conference ended, Jewish visitors marched past the ghetto memorial to the railway sidings from which trains left for Auschwitz and the gas chambers.

The Warsaw ghetto uprising, a despairing struggle that lasted four weeks, began on 19 April 1943.

To the precise, there were two conferences in Warsaw. The first two days were sponsored by the Polish Academy of Sciences and the Jewish Historical Institute.

They were organised by Professor Madajczik, who arguably took scientific accuracy more seriously than Professor Pilichowski, the head of the Institute for Research into Nazi Crime in Poland, who hosted the second part of the conference.

But Professor Pilichowski deserves credit for having transformed the gathering into a meeting of 300 people interested in a common topic many of whom will have met for the first time, having previously only read each other's work.

His institute is attached to the Polish Ministry of Justice, so it is a government body, but in Poland official interpretations, if such they are, are not applied too lavishly.

Besides, the host, in keeping with his Polish colleagues, was much too interested in the subject to make the conference a mere propaganda show for the government.

The list of speakers was not even arranged to enable the proverbial clue of thread to be made out.

The proceedings were a succession of dry overviews on scientific work, detailed descriptions based on source material and straightforward outlines of personal experiences.

Above all, so much that is worth knowing about the history of the Jews in Poland was said and printed that Polish propaganda can hardly afford ever to disregard it.

Coverage was partly marked by an uneasy conscience. In the past the Jewish uprising of spring 1943 has almost been dealt with as part of the August 1944 Polish Warsaw uprising.

Anti-Semitism was not only in evidence in the late-1970s; it has also reared its head occasionally in Polish daily newspapers since the imposition of martial law in December 1981.

But before the ceremonies to mark the ghetto uprising anniversary got under way, at the end of March, a Polish leader who used to be noted for his anti-Semitic views, General Moczar, stepped down as head of the Polish Ex-Servicemen's Association, Zbowed, which was one of the anniversary's hosts.

Polish delegates at the conference, especially journalists for newspapers that gave it generous coverage, went to endless lengths to emphasise Polish aid to the Jewish resistance in particular.

Others hoped to stress that resistance caved in largely because of the lack of assistance from the West, including the Polish government-in-exile in London.

But this version of events failed to make headway at the conference. It only gained a foothold in semi-official coverage.

It nonetheless led to the sole major scientific controversy, which arose when a Jewish expert disputed this view, producing figures in support of his claim that Polish backing was limited to individual activities, especially by the Church.

The home army of bourgeois Poland did indeed lend less assistance than the communist-orientated so-called People's Army. But even this fact is true only in relative terms.

The Reds were a small group of partisans who in relation to their limited strength undeniably lent the Jewish resistance clear backing.

No mention wa made at the conference of tragic attacks by other Poles on defenceless Jews on the run in Poland. This topic was taboo. It was also not strictly relevant to the event in connection with which the conference was held.

There were more West Germans at the conference than any other national group apart, of course, from hosts. They mainly came firmly resolved not to the mi bogus celebration.

At the same time they were ed to make West German co to the subject clear and to tacts with other specialists from the GDR.

Given that frank speaking at table after the official Polish hosts were full of p West German contribution it might not have fitted the

The unexpected official shown toward Jewish history came as a surprise to visito to the Jews themselves.

Could it be that another recent Polish history has been go-ahead for impartial resea how long will it be before the apparent in Polish school text

The people of Warsaw did undue interest in the anniver monies.

If the Polish government demonstrate the existence of some kind or other between Nazi and anti-Fascist struggl policy of "peace-keeping" present-day Warsaw Pact, it said to have failed.

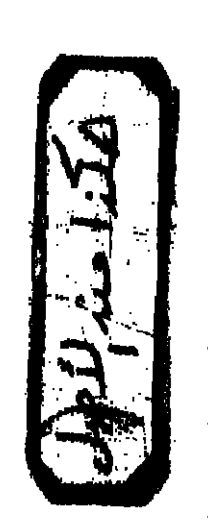
There was only one official recurred in Professor Pilichow ference speeches and on TV, terated by Justice Minister too.

It was that good-neighbo tions with the Federal Republ many were hardly conceivab as revanchist and revisionist gained ground there.

They were likewise unthi long as Nazi criminals still free in West Germany. There it was argued, be a statute of for Nazi crimes.

Jörg

(Frankfurter Allgeme für Deutschland,



A Nazi date likely to boost German anniversary industry

The 50th anniversary of the Nazi take-over could mark the beginning of a succession of anniversaries extending from 1983 to 1995.

The Federal Republic of Germany, and possibly Austria, could be inundated in commemorative speeches, books, programmes and articles for the next 12 years.

The 50th anniversary of the end of the Third Reich, a 1,000-year Reich that ended with half the world in ruins, will not be until 1995.

The first few months of 1983 have been bad enough. The Germans have always had a predilection for reviewing world affairs at anniversary intervals (but infrequently in between).

They do so somewhat thoughtlessly, but make up for their lack of thought with pedantry and thoroughness. It now looks like becoming a flourishing business.

There is a serious risk of the upshot being an eager-beaver, at times hypocritical, process of enlightenment that might at best portray the Nazi era as the stuff of horror and at worst apologise for it as having been a pardonable lapse in German history.

A leading magazine has already recalled the anniversary of the first road-works on what was to be Hitler's network of autobahns.

The anniversaries to follow seem a foregone conclusion: the Röhm putsch and the sacking of the synagogues, the *Anschluss* of Austria and of Sudeten Germany.

It could prove to be one Nazi anniversary after another, with everything being resurrected: from pacts to the dates on which the various powers entered the war.

There will be no shortage of battle anniversaries either, not to mention the Nazi generals' campaigns and defeats.

The resurrection of these horrors is likely to mark the end of horror itself and the feeling of how undescribable the horrors were that the Nazis wrote in the annals of history.

We lack a concept by which to draw a distinction between a Nazi anniversary and a normal one.

The men in charge of the media also seem to have lost all sense of proportion for a meaningful and educational treatment of fascism.

Generations are growing up that no longer have personal memories of the Nazi era and are unable to recall at first hand the physical and mental terror that was its hallmark.

This lack of historic context is clearly the floodgate through which fascination with the Nazis is bidding for its come-back in the minds of many young people.

They are youngsters who have grown receptive to heroic sentiments and the so-called elementary factor that is lacking in a progressively more rational world.

Affluence and unemployment, not to mention their counterparts boredom and lack of inner purpose, are evidently sending many people back from the present to a seemingly more meaningful and fulfilled past.

The Nazi era is seen as having been exciting. It is fast assuming the proportions of an *ersatz* world like the Wild West or the evening's crime ration on TV.

Feelings of aggression, unsatisfied by the present, can bask in adventure and titanic trials of strength that may one day come home to roost.

They are already reflected in official records. Right-wing extremism is on the increase.

Given the alarming growth rate of aggression in society, and given the fears that emanate from so many sources, must be allow ourselves to by tyrannised by the calendar?

Where does it say that we are under any obligation to do so? The has helped our country, which contradictions, has successfu to be a working democracy, to a fresh understanding of itself.

Is this painful historic e that is likely to pursue the Ger ple as a whole and each and e vidual German well into the ne ry destined to descend to the "B" movies for late-night TV tion?

Is it to be up to a dubious fil try intent only on box-office perform the role that ought to work of historians, school and media investigation?

The experts' role is difficu usually only reach people who ready conversant with the facts leaves it to the media and the maintain the ongoing process of to mind the past.

But the educators must no sense of proportion and mak should be a deterrent be infect stead.

TV and school, each in its ow are already shirking their ro Baden-Württemberg Educatio ter, for instance, is busy scrap sons in which light might hav shed on the origins of German mitism.

TV is daily producing a what cannot really be produce Both are playing with fire.

Wolfgang

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 16 A

■ ENERGY

Huge cost of fast-breeder reactors an issue that stays on the boil

reement has again been reached, t least in principle, on how to the cost of the fast breeder and emperature reactor projects in r and Schmehausen.

on past occasions we have been to understand that both projects be continued, and not abandoned expensive, and that industry will uch of the extra cost.

last announcement to this effect ade 14 months ago by SPD Re Minister Andreas von Bülow, ater claimed, from the Opposition , that the projects had in reality at least DM3bn short of funds, that was not even taking follow-up into account!

en as now, we are told that aban g the projects would be much expensive than carrying on, which an argument that is the brainchild e present Minister, Christian Dem Heinz Riesenhuber.

1977 a previous incumbent, Hans höfer of the SPD, presented an im ive set of figures to prove the same All were later proved wrong.

any point so far, even for Herr von w, abandoning the reactor projects ld have cost less than going ahead them.

inisters come and go; the civil ser who compile the figures are still us. So is the extra expense, the 's share of which the hapless tax looks like having to meet.

Herr Riesenhuber will surely appre that at this rate it will not be long re his Ministry is responsible solely nuclear research, if only because will be no funds left for anything

for the Bonn government, it will to answer for investing hundreds illions of marks in such prestige cts (extra hundreds of millions, after year) at a time when swinge-ing cuts in welfare spending are imminent.

This year extra investment subsidies totalling DM572m are to be ploughed into Kalkar and DM300m into Schmehausen. Can there be any political justification?

The fast breeder has been under development for 30 years. No-one will deny that for the next few decades, certainly for the foreseeable future, it is superfluous.

There once were fears that the world's uranium reserves would soon be exhausted, but not any more. There are reserves in plenty, and uranium will long be less expensive as a nuclear fuel than plutonium.

Plutonium is what the fast breeder is designed to breed a surplus of, but it is both expensive and an extremely difficult substance to handle.

The Bonn Research Ministry fields as an argument, and an argument seriously meant, in favour of carrying on with the project that there can be no ruling out the possibility that uranium suppliers might one day make political demands.

We would then be dependent on them, it is argued, and not without some justification. But this dependence could only be eliminated by building breeder reactors all over the country — or dispensing with nuclear power entirely, of course!

The strongest argument in favour of the high-temperature reactor is that it might one day prove possible to generate process heat at such high temperatures that it could be harnessed for coal liquefaction or gasification.

But at the time of writing no-one can say whether, should the opportunity ever arise, it would make economic or ecological sense to do so.

If the fast breeder were scrapped the Karlsruhe nuclear research centre would no longer have much to do. If the high-temperature reactor were scrapped the Jülich nuclear research centre would be largely redundant.

Research scientists would be jobless, industrial workers would be on the dole and a whole range of staff at government departments that handle planning permission would be left twiddling their thumbs.

At a time when manpower and cash are in short supply for many unquestionably important research projects, occupational therapy can be no excuse for carrying with two major projects of this kind.

Once the prototypes are completed the same arguments are sure to be advanced in support of building further facilities. Plans are already being drawn up.

Consideration is being given, the Ministry states, to building a large-scale breeder reactor, but it need not necessarily be the outcome of a decision to carry on with the Kalkar prototype.

Experience has shown that this is exactly what it would be, sooner or later, as two earlier examples of atoms for peace projects indicate only too clearly.

Breeder development began in Germany, as experts admit, in 1960 because there was not enough to do at the Karlsruhe nuclear research establishment.

In 1953 President Eisenhower called for the development of peaceful uses of atomic energy because major research centres in the United States were at a loose end too.

There was nothing much left for them to do after developing the atomic and hydrogen bombs, while in the defence sector the emphasis was on disarmament.

The Ministry argues that if work on the German prototypes in Kalkar and Schmehausen were to be abandoned there would be a worldwide response.

International opinion would interpret the decision not as a realisation that there was no feasible alternative but as a failure to come to terms with modern complex technology.

It is always difficult in the extreme to call a halt to undesirable developments, especially when prestige is at stake.

There will always be calls to complete the project regardless of the cost and despite bitter past experience. The Rhine-Main-Danube Canal is an example.

Yet abandoning pointless projects could be regarded as a step in the right direction, especially in the Third World, which is busy repeating so many of the industrialised countries' mistakes (with every assistance from the industrialised world, incidentally).

It is not just a matter of who is to foot the bill for the extra cost of completing a couple of construction projects in North Rhine-Westphalia. There will also be follow-up costs, operational losses and waste disposal problems.

So we may confidently look forward to the next "final statement of accounts" in connection with the two reactor projects.

Martin Urban

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 22 April 1983)

utlook for the year 2030 shows a limit to the options

y the year 2030 an estimated 8,000 million people are expected to need times the energy currently availa-

ere aren't many options open to this demand.

resources must be harnessed if ies are to be ensured.

is was the outlook forecast at the burg energy congress by Wolf Hä board chairman of the Jülich nu research centre.

t mankind was not doomed to sur without energy, he said, although development of energy systems to requirements in an ecologically sa ctory manner would prove enor usly expensive.

rofessor Häfele expected energy re h to require per capita investment to $10,000 as against the current

n the 1970s, against the background oil crisis and demands for envi mental protection, the development electric motor vehicles made rapid dway.

irst it was environmental considerations that gave projects a boost, then economy requirements, especially the need to save fuel.

The battery-powered car is currently in the doldrums, says Dietrich Berndt, who represented battery manufacturers Varta at the Hamburg congress.

This was because of the trend to the decline in motor fuel prices and the fact that environmental pollution had yet to reach critical levels.

But this state of affairs could soon change, especially where pollution was concerned.

Electric power had proved fine with fork-lift trucks. Herr Cordes also referred to experiments with battery-powered buses.

Energy research must bear in mind its special political and social responsibility in paving the way for energy utilisation, experts from both East and West told the congress.

The scientific part of its proceedings was sponsored by the International Free Academy of New Cosmology.

dpa

(Lübecker Nachrichten, 21 April 1983)

Sun not yet shining on solar power: much more to be done

Solar energy is not yet a viable alternative to oil, gas and coal. Solar cells can so far only complement conventional power supplies.

The Bonn Research Ministry has invested DM150m in solar energy research, but serious problems remain.

Solar power suffered a serious setback last year when Brown Boveri & Cie, of Mannheim, decided to stop making solar collectors.

Many felt that meant solar energy could be written off as not being economic enough.

AEG, of Frankfurt, a company that could well have done without the adverse publicity it got last year, chose to invest in solar power, but cells, not collectors.

Grant-aided by the EEC, AEG are this year due to build the largest solar power station in Europe on Pellworm, an island in the North Sea.

The station will convert sunlight directly into electric power that will supply the island's spa centre.

AEG embarked in 1977 on a development programme to manufacture inexpensive solar cells and are investing DM107m in a bid to cut the cost per unit of installed capacity.

In 1977 a watt of solar power cost DM100; by 1985 it is to cost a mere DM5. The programme is grant-aided by the Bonn Research Ministry.

Solar cells have an environmentally A1 technique that has been known since the mid-1950s when they were first used to power space satellites.

Vorwärts

Scarcer supplies of fossil fuels such as oil, gas and coal have now made solar energy a more interesting prospect at less exalted altitudes.

What is more, solar cells use a raw material, silicium, that is available in virtually unlimited quantities.

High manufacturing costs are still a problem, however, which is why Volker Cordes, head of new technology and space research at AEG, feels their uses will be strictly limited for the time being.

Solar cells, he says, can at present do no more than complement power supplies.

They are intended for use in communications technology, in isolated homes and on remote farms and with signal equipment and buoys.

But Herr Cordes feels solar energy has a much more promising future elsewhere. It could play a major role in supplying energy to Third World countries where sunshine is a virtually unlimited commodity.

Other solar cell manufacturers are similarly reticent about the uses to which their products can be put.

Klaus-Ulrich Heinen, head of the solar engineering department at Cologne Technical College, foresees major

Continued on page 10

■ AGRICULTURE

Insipid Granny Smith succeeds tasty old Graf von Luxemburg

Jürgen Dahl, 54, a Krefeld journalist, is trying to save old varieties of apple from extinction. He says modern varieties just don't taste as good.

In the Garden of Eden the apple may have tasted fine, but latter-day Adams and Eves are often sadly disappointed.

"Most varieties in the market taste of nothing," Herr Dahl says. He and two friends have been engaged in their rescue bid for two years.

He published an appeal in gardening and nature magazines for readers to send him shoots from old varieties for grafting.

The response was magnificent. Samples were sent through the post from all over the country and grafted on to young trees last year in a Krefeld greenhouse.

Dahl recently planted 125 of these trees on a plot of land he owns near Kleve in the Rhineland.

In many cases the senders supplied references to go with their shoots, such as: "this is the tastiest apple I have ever eaten" oder "this is from my grandmother's gardener's favourite tree."

The names of the varieties will be sure to ring a bell among German readers who remember the apples of their youth. They include Charlamowsky, Rheinischer Bohnapfel, Winterrambour, Danziger Kantapfel, Zuccalmaglio, Trierer Weinapfel, Berner Rosenapfel, Kaiser Wilhelm, Graf von Luxemburg, Schafsnase, Sternreinette, Grafensteiner und Weisser Wintercalvill.

Shape, size and appearance are as varied as their names. The apples come round and oval, smooth and rough-skinned, yellow and green, striped and red, and firm, juicy and soft in consistency.

Their taste range varies, as outlined by J. C. L. Wredow in an 1853 gardening manual published in Berlin, from sour and aniseed-like to strawberryish and spicy.

Weisser Wintercalvill and *Gravensteiner* are viewed in Germany as the best varieties. The Wintercalvill is a big, tall apple with five "ribs" and a greenish-yellow skin.

Its flesh is said to be whitish-yellow in colour and soft and juicy in consistency and taste.

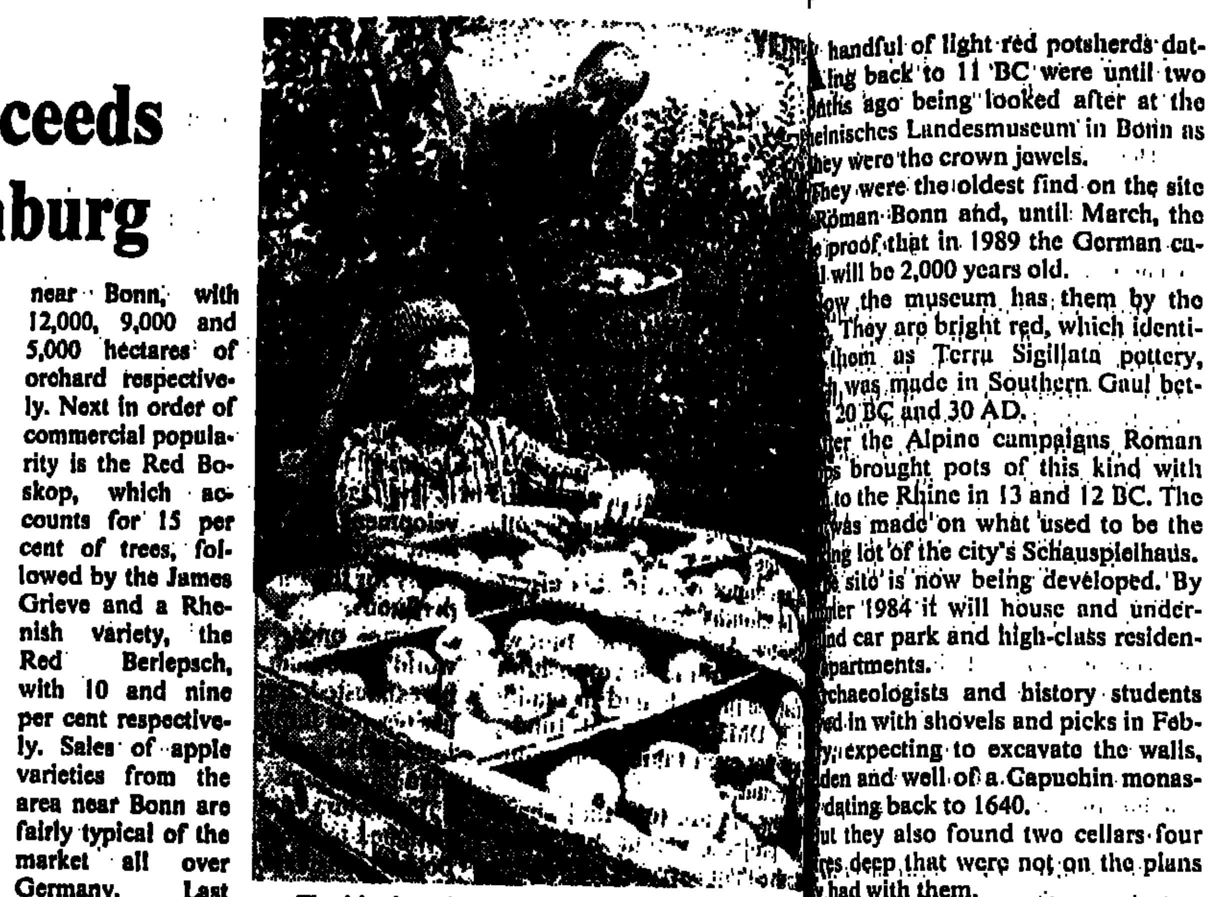
The Gravensteiner is famed for its aroma. Its skin is basically yellow, with red stripes and speckles. It is silky and shiny, its taste calls to mind wine and pineapple.

It is an incomparable delicacy, as Rector Hinterthür put it in an old Brunswick manual on apples. But it is one that is evidently no longer in demand.

Gravensteiners, says Jakob Linden of the Horticultural Association in Bonn, don't sell. Wholesalers decide what sells and what doesn't, leaving consumers with very little choice.

The trade also decides what varieties are planted, and in Germany today every other tree in the orchard is a *Cox's Orange Pippin.*

The main fruit-growing areas are the Altes Land, near Hamburg, the Lake Constance region and the Vorgebirge, near Bonn, with 12,000, 9,000 and 5,000 hectares of orchard respectively. Next in order of commercial popularity is the Red Boskop, which accounts for 15 per cent of trees, followed by the James Grieve and a Rhenish variety, the Red Berlepsch, with 10 and nine per cent respectively. Sales of apple varieties from the area near Bonn are fairly typical of the market all over Germany. Last year, according to CMA, the agricultural marketing board, the Golden Delicious accounted for 28 per cent of the market, followed by the Pippin, with 24 per cent.



The ideal apple, for some, is shaped like a tenni[s ball]

(Photo: ...)

Then came the Boskop, with 15, the Jonathan, with nine, and the Granny Smith, with four per cent. So three varieties made up over two thirds of the total.

Otherwise, apart from regional varieties such as the Ingrid Marie down south and the James Grieve in North Rhine-Westphalia, none gets a look-in.

It is, as Renate Havlik of BUND, the Nature Conservation Association, puts it, a boring minimum.

Yet in the 19th century, and the 18th too, there were any number of varieties. 878 different kinds of apple were listed and described in a three-volume manual published in Jena between 1839 and 1841.

Identification and classification techniques may have been less reliable in those days, so perhaps this number was exaggerated.

But there can be no doubt at all that from then on the number of varieties steadily and constantly declined.

A 1928 reference work lists about 100 varieties of apple still grown in Germany.

In the 1980 edition of Robert Silbereisen's manual (Silbereisen is a lecturer at Hohenheim University, Stuttgart) a mere 30 or so market apples are listed, together with a handful of o[...] minor varieties and half a do[zen] apples.

He is scathing in his critici[sm] Golden Delicious as sweet a[...] and of the Granny Smith as l[...] aroma, yet he notes that both [...] tremely well.

Smell and taste are thus s[...] ter less than a firm skin, b[...] ance and good looks even af[ter] storage.

Growers are under constan[t ...] and they have to plant the s[...] rieties to ensure that they s[...] ness.

Quality goes by the board a[...] disation gains the upper han[d ...] among the growers claim tha[t ...] would soonest have apples th[...] like tennis balls, apart from th[...]

In the course of the season [...] sprayed with over a dozen ki[nds ...] secticide and pesticide to e[...] losses are kept to a minimum.

The resulting apple looks [...] healthy, and looks are extrem[ely ...] tant. Polls have shown that 7[...] of customers are attracted by [...] appearance.

Fifty-six per cent decide to[...] the strength of the price. No [...] made of taste and smell.

Horst Sch[...]

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, ...)

Continued from page 9

technical and economic problems for solar energy.

Solar power units, he says, generate power during the daytime and in summer when the demand is limited. So power needs to be stored.

This is technically feasible, but it's also expensive. Yet storage is the only way in which power station capacity can be reduced.

Having invested DM150m in solar energy research and development, the Bonn Research Ministry now plans to wait and see what findings the AEG boffins come up with.

Jürgen Schäfer, the scientist in charge of solar energy research at the Ecological Research Institute, in Freiburg, is all in favour of the Ministry's wait-and-see attitude.

Exaggerated financial backing, he says, more or less obliges scientists to achieve results, whereas technological development takes time.

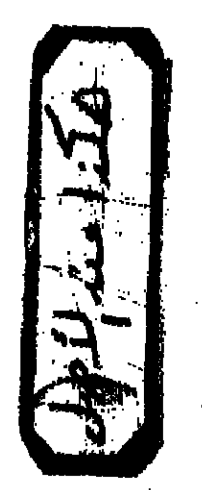
In his view solar energy has yet to reach the stage at which it can be used to any great extent.

"What matters at present is mainly to save energy," Schäfer says.

In the long term, he is convinced, it will come into its own. But that will not be until technical problems have been solved in a manner that is satisfactory from the economic viewpoint too.

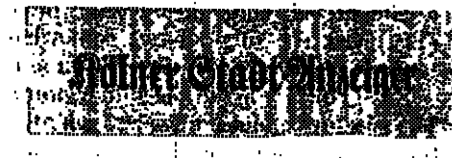
Martin Kessler

(Vorwärts, 21 April 1983)



■ ARCHAEOLOGY

Diggers give 2000-year history to Bonn



A handful of light red potsherds dating back to 11 BC were until two [mo]nths ago being looked after at the [Rh]einisches Landesmuseum in Bonn as [if t]hey were the crown jewels.

[T]hey were the oldest find on the site [of] Roman Bonn and, until March, the [...] proof that in 1989 the German ca[pita]l will be 2,000 years old.

[N]ow the museum has them by the [...]. They are bright red, which identi[fies] them as Terra Sigillata pottery, [whic]h was made in Southern Gaul bet[ween] 20 BC and 30 AD.

[Aft]er the Alpine campaigns Roman [troo]ps brought pots of this kind with [them] to the Rhine in 13 and 12 BC. The [find] was made on what used to be the [park]ing lot of the city's Schauspielhaus.

[The] site is now being developed. By [...]er 1984 it will house and under[grou]nd car park and high-class residen[tial] apartments.

[Ar]chaeologists and history students [mov]ed in with shovels and picks in Feb[ruar]y, expecting to excavate the walls, [gar]den and well of a Capuchin monas[tery] dating back to 1640.

[B]ut they also found two cellars four [met]res deep that were not on the plans [the]y had with them.

The cellars contained large quantities [of] Westerland pottery, modern farm[hou]se pottery, china and optical glass. [Th]ey will presumably have been left [...] when the monasteries were abol[ish]ed in 1803.

Alongside the monastery well there [wa]s a cess pit filled with peat. In it the [hea]d of excavations, Michael Gechter, [fou]nd splinters of glass, eggshell and [the] shell of a walnut.

"With the well and the cess pit side [by] side we need hardly be surprised at [th]e speed with which the Plague [sp]read," he says.

A disappointment

This surprise was followed by a disappointment. The soil beneath the mo[na]stery walls revealed no trace of the [...]th-century Franconian period, about [wh]ich little is known.

Underneath the monastery garden [the] ground sloped down to the Rhine. It [con]tained the first Roman strata: the re[ma]ins of a Roman villa that had been [...]ked.

They included the remains of under[fl]or central heating and of four [...]ths in what must have been a large [kitc]hen. So the Bonn archaeologists [ima]gine it may well have been an inn [for] sailors of the Roman Rhenish fleet.

Oyster and mussel shells and the [...] jaw of a pig prove yet again that [the] Romans were fine trenchermen.

A few metres to one side of the kit[che]n there seems to have been a Roman [iro]n ore smelting plant, indicated by [frag]ments of large pots, large amounts [of] charcoal and lumps of grass iron ore.

This iron ore comes from the Aachen [are]a and is given the name because it [oc]curs there immediately underneath [the] sods of grass.

Where there is a smelting shop there [is] sure to be a smithy, but the diggers [fai]led to unearth any traces of one, so [the]y fancy the pig iron was processed at [the] nearby army camp.

The camp, which must have housed [ab]out 9,000 Roman legionaries, was in [the] north of the present city centre, not [far] from the autobahn bridge over the [Rh]ine.

It was linked by a grit road with the [ci]vilian settlement, which extended [fr]om the Schauspielhaus to the Bundes[ha]us, or parliament building, in [pr]esent-day Bonn.

In 40 BC the Roman general Drusus had the camp built on a plateau above high-water level. It was surrounded by earthworks and stockades and was one of 50 such fortifications along the Rhine.

To the west protection was provided by a marshy river, the Gumme, while to the east the ground sloped steeply 15 metres down to the banks of the Rhine.

To the north there was the Rhenish plain, and Germanic tribes could be seen with the naked eye as they came in to attack from the mouth of the River Sieg.

The Annals of Tacitus relate that in 69 AD the Batavians, a Germanic tribe, destroyed the Roman wood-and-earth camp, leaving the moats full of corpses.

Archaeologists excavated the camp, which is almost square (528 by 524 metres), some years ago, surveying it and reconstructing it on paper.

They were surprised how accourately Tacitus had described camp life. We know from Tacitus that the legion must have felt extremely cramped.

Each legionary had on average to make do with a living area of 2.5 square metres. Six thousand heavily armed men lived behind the fortified walls, plus 120 cavalry and 2,000 footsoldiers.

Then there were the auxiliaries and 400 veterans, who worked as craftsmen in peacetime and as auxiliaries to the professional soldiers in war.

Roman legionaries led a life of war and bachelorhood. Their regulation food was wheat and wine. They bought clothes, armour and helmets from their pocket money and their booty.

Round their necks they usually wore amulets in the shape of keys, combs, scales or lizards.

The Romans may have brought their entire pantheon of gods to Germany with them, but they didn't force their religion on the Germans.

Indeed, they also took to honouring the mother goddesses of the Celts, and the Romans made Bonn a centre of ths particulur cult.

Now that the oldest potsherds have been identified in the civilian settlement and not in the legionaries' camp, Roman Bonn can be said to have started there and not as a military outpost.

The centre of civilian Bonn seems to have been roughly where the market square is today.

The current excavations have also shown that the early Roman settlement was abandoned in about 50 AD and the garrison moved to the camp.

In the years after this removal there was a steady increase in the number of attacks by Germanic tribes from the other side of the Rhine.

In 355 AD the Franks sacked both the legionaries' camp and the civilian settlement. Four years later the Emperor Julian had the camp rebuilt and enclosed by a stone wall.

Early in April the archaeologists unearthed the Roman village street at a depth of five metres, and in the ditch by the roadside they found more potsherds.

They were not only light red Terra Sigillata but also black, late Celtic pottery known as Latene.

So Bonn is in reality older than 1994 and pre-Roman in origin. Before the Romans arrived there were the huts of a Celto-Germanic village of ferrymen and fishermen.

To them we owe the name Bonn, which is likewise pre-Roman.

Uli Franz

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 13 April 1983)

Theory threatens to turn old ideas on their heads

In his *Amerika — Die Neue oder die Alte Welt?* (America: New World or Old?) Tübingen ethnologist Werner Müller casts doubts on the assumption that the Indians crossed the Bering Strait to America during the Ice Age.

Europe, he plausibly argues, may well have been settled from America. For one, the cultural geography of the Eurasian landmass lends little support to the conventional assumption.

Siberia separates civilisations in the northern hemisphere. The Stone Age pottery of the New World, for instance, is found not in Siberia but in Eastern Europe.

The tale is much the same when it comes to the mocassin, the poncho, tent architecture and much more. Siberia invariably separates America and Europe.

Müller's trump card is the affinity between New World and Old World, particularly Old European, cultures. The New World supplies details with which many readers will be familiar from the European angle but which come as something new in the American version.

It is amazing how assuredly he succeeds in showing much 19th century research to have lacked credibility. He turns the tables, arguing that Stone Age Europe was influenced by North America.

If his line of argument were to gain general support the conventional world view taken by archaeologists would be turned upside-down.

The sudden appearance of pointed blades in the Aurignacian culture, the Eskimo-like way of life in the Hamburg tunnel valley outlined by Alfred Rust and the emergence of the Canadian reindeer in north-western Europe (rather than its Siberian counterpart) all indicate closer links than the 10,000 kilometres across Siberia.

In anthropological terms Müller relies on the work of US specialist C. S. Coon, who stresses that the oldest finds of skulls and skeletons of the ancestors of today's European have been in the north-west corner of the continent.

The Americans have presented ethnologists with problems for some time. They include possible transatlantic links and the increasing frequency of "European" finds along the eastern seaboard.

Brazilian newspapers recently reported a find of old amphoras by divers near Rio. They were spread over an area equivalent to that of two tennis courts, that they seem unlikely to have been planted.

Their shape is said to be reminiscent of the second century BC. This find could prove more specific than either Phoenician inscriptions in the Amazon or megalithic monuments in New England or runes in Minnesota.

Aerial photographs of the "Old" World reveal the scars of wartime bombing in many places. We are reminded how dreadful these old wounds were.

In an age of progress Europe and America have now come very close together, but one of the points we have in common is worry. Nowadays it takes only minutes for one continent to wipe out the other.

Müller, who was born in Emmerich, near Düsseldorf, in 1907, is a very versatile write, as will be seen in his *Neue Sonne — Neues Licht,* a collection of 15 essays on the history, culture and language of North American Indians.

They deal with such varied topics as Indian poetry, including a number of samples such as the unforgettable Wild Rose song of Dakota, and Ranke's erroneous assumptions on the effect of the factual in history.

Müller stresses the phantom-like character of urban civilisation and refers to Ernst Jünger's views onthe subject.

He devotes to Mircea Eliade an essay entitled Myth Today and Science Yesterday, showing what the latter misses by being blinded by the facts.

It is blinded even though such major exact historians as Johannes Haller have demonstrated how powerfully effective imagery can be.

Mention is also made of Kerenyi and E. B. Taylor. Müller only allows to see the so-called facts as aids which, if ineptly used, may project artificial, imaginary world in front of reality as it truly was.

In the reflection of his criticism of the conventional we first appreciate the entire depth and the fascination of historical reality.

So Müller's book is an appeal for ethnology to reconsider itself, as one of the essays is headed. He may be a specialist research scholar but he never loses sight of two points.

The first is the world as a whole, which is greater than our civilisation; the second is our point of time in the world.

Hans Kasdorff

(Die Zeit, 15 April 1983)

Werner Müller: *Amerika — Die Neue oder die Alte Welt* (America: New World or Old?); published by Dietrich Reimer Verlag, Berlin 1982, 238pp., 38 illustrations, 3 maps; DM48. Werner Müller: *Neue Sonne — Neues Licht, Aufsätze zu Geschichte, Kultur und Sprache der Indianer Nordamerikas* (New Sun, New Light: Essays on the History, Culture and Language of North American Indians); edited with an introduction by Rolf Gehlen and Bernd Wolf; published by Dietrich Reimer Verlag, Berlin 1981, 295pp.; DM28.

THE MEDIA

'Faint-hearted' German TV criticised over nuclear-accident film

The *Prix Futura* is held every two years with the aim of providing a forum for new ideas in radio and television. The competition, organised by German TV and radio organisations, is open to entrants anywhere in the world.

Most public interest at the 8th *Prix Futura* in Berlin was in a TV film that has received the cold shoulder from German television.

Im Zeichen des Kreuzes (Under the Sign of the Cross) tells about an imaginary nuclear accident in a small village in Lower Saxony.

The question is why the German first television channel (ARD) will not use the film. Instead it is to be used only on some third channel programmes, which are generally more high-brow and therefore less popular.

Foreigners at the festival were mystified. Was this censorship? The film, produced by Rainer Boldt and Hans-Rüdiger Minow, was in fact not part of the competition.

It was shown separately and the showing was followed by a discussion. The reaction by producers and editors from all parts of the world was much the same: why was German television being so faint-hearted?

There was some strong and well-founded criticism of the film: it was long-winded; there was too much action; it had too much trivia; and the characters and events lacked shades of good and evil.

Despite this, few doubted that it was worth showing to a large audience. The documentary judging panel gave a judgment despite the unofficial nature of the film. They said it was an important contribution and a warning about dangers of nuclear power. There must be no taboos for such a production.

The question is, will the ARD have the gumption to present the film at the next *Prix Futura* in two years time (assuming it has been broadcast before then)?

It is an ironic highlight of the polarised media discussion of today that it was the British commercial Yorkshire TV that presented a courageous production called *Alice — a fight for life.*

Its chances of being shown in Germany are slim, because it is vitriol to both politicians and industrialists.

No punches pulled

The film pulls no punches. It openly and accusingly documents cases of workers in the asbestos industry who face death from cancer as a result of inhaling the dust.

This is TV journalism at its best, a journalism that uses the particular clout of investigative reporting to disprove official statements.

The victims get plenty of opportunity to air their views. But this is done discreetly.

Justifiably, this production, with its immediate political impact, was awarded a *Prix Futura* prize for TV documentaries. Producer-director John Willis said that the asbestos industry tried to block the film before it was broadcast. But Yorkshire TV had courageously stuck to its guns.

The Swedish entry that was completed after four years of work, *The Miracle of Life,* was just outstanding. In a breathtaking sequence of true life shots, the film shows how human life comes about (directors: Carl Löfmann and Bo Erikson).

The film uses newly developed technical possibilities (medical photography: Lennart Nilson). What was particularly impressive here was the lack of pathos and the descriptive language.

Much of the other 46 entries in the documentary section were well meant and dealt with important topics — nature, ecology, human relations and technical progress — but were unconvincing, presenting little in the way of new interpretations or analysis.

The section TV Plays was also disappointing. There were a few ill-conceived psycho-trips and some ambitious searching for the mysterious and eerie (from Austria, Italy and France's Second Channel). The language of the photography was superficial.

A BBC entry dealing with unemployment, a most important issue today, failed to use to opportunities the subject presented.

In this section, too, the public probably agreed with the panel's decision to award prizes to the French and the Polish entries.

The French entry that got the prize (TF1) was the original but somewhat formalised story of the curator of a museum of country life in the 19th century. The curator cannot understand why the fine and tasty tomatoes he grows annoy the government maarket strategists so much that they launch a major offensive against him *(The Obstinate Gardener,* by Jean Claude Carrière and Maurice Failevic).

The other prize went to the unusual Polish TV play *Star Dust.* The film (author and director: Andrzej Kondratiuk) relates the story of an old couple leading an inventors' and philosophers' life far off the beaten track of our technical civilisation — a life full of deeply scurrilous thoughts and dialogues.

High standard

These are two gently radical films that rather poetically lampoon the efficiency and industriousness of our society to show that the possibility of a future worth living is still open to us.

The jury for radio plays that this time selected its favourites by an intricate points system was satisfied with the entries and praised their generally high standard.

One of the prizes went to Hessischer Rundfunk for its *Oliver* (author: Werner Koller; director: Horst H. Vollmer).

Here, the jury praised th... which the career of a child ... lated in a radiophonic blend ... criticism and satire.

The other prize went to the ... *Supersaver* that dealt with ... mer society that leaves its ... members alone in the jungle ... chandise.

Most of the entries in the ... mentary sector dealt directly ... within society and the famil... diate environment, orientating ... ves by palpable individual ... as René Farabet of Radio Fr... in his closing assessment.

Life was also presented as ... an "environment into which ... dives." Here, the radio ... comes an avant gardist in ... "tracks of everyday life."

The jury praised the Austr... *Ein treuer Diener seines Herrn* *Herr* (a master's faithful serva... master). This production ... joint social motivation and the ... of identity of a man and his ... servant.

The Danish entry, *A Strange ... mark,* describes the conflict ... between Turkish immigrants ... new environment.

The jury described both ... "impressive radiophonic refle... reality produced with great ...

All the available prizes in ... sectors were awarded. None ... rors had any reason to have ... conscience — something tha... Franca Magnani, a first time ... cause of the possibility of inj...

There was no claim that ... ment was badly wrong.

Uwe Kamm...

(Frankfurter Rundschau, ...)

Deutsche Welle wins lots of friends in faraway places

Deutsche Welle (The Voice of Germany) celebrated its 30th anniversary this month as a German station that is better known in the remotest corners of the world than at home.

Deutsche Welle's regular short-wave broadcasts began on 3 May 1953 as a community programme of Germany's broadcasting networks.

It was not until 1960 it became a station in its own right when the Bundestag in the Adenauer era passed a bill to establish radio stations under federal law.

This was not only the hour of birth of Deutsche Welle as an independent station but also of Deutschlandfunk.

Both are housed near each other on the outskirts of Cologne.

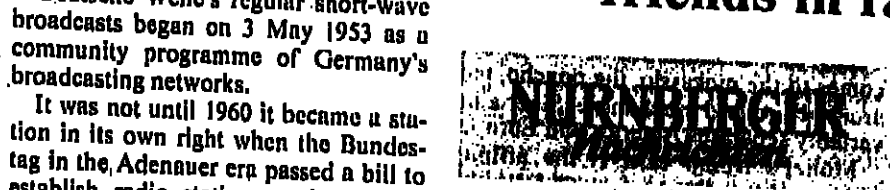
Deutschlandfunk's aim is to present a programme for Germany. Its director-general, Richard Becker, says, it is "to help perpetuate the awareness that the Germans on both sides of the border are one nation, despite ideological, political and social differences."

Naturally, Deutschlandfunk is more than just a radio station for the other Germany. Its medium and long-wave programmes are broadcast in 14 European languages, apart from German.

Deutsche Welle has 93 programmes in German and 33 other languages. It broadcasts round the clock. It is meant to "present a comprehensive picture of political, economic and cultural life in Germany."

The broadcasts go via satellite to the Deutsche Welle relay stations in Kigali, Central Africa, Sri Lanka and Antigua, in the West Indies.

Listeners can be on expeditions in the Himalayas; nomads in Outer Mongolia; or villagers in Papua-New Guinea.



Programming is extremely complicated because of the differences in the target groups: some listeners live in democratic countries, others in dictatorships; some are educated, others are illiterate; some live in strongly religious countries, others have had next to no brush with Western civilisation.

So what is this "picture of Germany" that Deutsche Welle tries to convey?

Lothar Schwartz, one of the top assistants of Deutsche Welle Director-General Klaus Schütz: "That varies from one language and cultural region to another."

Programmes in Hindi are different from those in Urdu, just as Haussa broadcasts differ from those in Amharic. And listeners to Swahili broadcasts get a different programme from those listening in on the Pashtu programme.

It is impossible to establish the exact number of Deutsche Welle listeners. But the 350,000 items of listeners' mail received every year speak for themselves.

Deutsche Welle has been uninvolved in the "political tug-of-war between the parties over the media" (Lothar Schwartz) because it is rarely listened to at home although it can be ... sily enough. But it still has its ...

One problems is caused by ... foreign employees, especially ... cers.

When it comes to the ... languages, it is difficult to keep ... on whether translators and ... are sticking to the usually car... mulated German scripts.

For example, Tehran recently ... a strongly worded protest agai... ed Deutsche Welle interfe... Iran's domestic affairs. It ... that two Iranian employees, K... opponents, had slipped a few ... meini slogans into the program...

Despite such mistakes, De... Welle's world-wide reputation ... lent.

Recent surveys show that De... Welle runs neck-and-neck with ... in terms of credibility and th... outstrips the Voice of America ... has suffered a considerable loss ... tige due to President Ronald ... media policy.

Another problem is the ... ming stations to Afghanistan ... being jammed.

But Deutsche Welle technici... have a trick or two up their sle... still manage to reach listeners in ... viet Bloc.

Jürgen T...

(Nürnberger Nachrichten, ...)



MEDICINE

Doctors disagree over what sort of anti-nuclear war stance to adopt

...octors in all parts of the world are conducting an information cam... on the consequences of a nuclear ...

...edical associations along the lines ... the International Physicians for the ...vention of Nuclear War (IPPNW), ...ich was founded in 1980, are emerg... in many countries.

The German branch of IPPNW, has a ...bership of some 5,000. It does not ...rd itself as part of the international ...ce movement and wants to steer ...ar of polemics and party politics.

In the United States and Britain, the ...ve against the "last scourge," nuclear ...r, has been successful enough to rally ...e sections of the medical profession ...d its official associations.

Not so in the Federal Republic of ...rmany where most doctors have re...ined aloof from the campaign. There ...ve been scattered clashes between ...pporters and critics.

The 3rd Medical Congress on the ...vention of Nuclear War in Munich ...owed that the original medical move...ent in this country has been pushed ...o the peace movement camp and is ...w increasingly being dominated by ...e ancillary therapeutic professions.

The theme of the congress, which was ...ld in a major Munich beer hall, the ...lvatorkeller, was "We Won't Be Able ...o Help You."

The opening address by the Munich ...lemist Herbert Begemann drove it ...home to the 3,000 participants that the ultimate aim was to prevent not only a nuclear war but any kind of war.

Begemann urged the medical profession not to make any misleading offers of help, saying that this would pave the road to disaster.

He stressed the need to fully inform the public about the consequences of a nuclear war and the impossibility of help from the medical profession. The same demand was put forward by the world federation of doctors in 1981 and by the German Medical Association last year.

Begemann said that the congress was open to a variety of different views because medical initiatives could only be understood as part of a greater movement aimed at bringing about a reorientation of man within his environment.

The congress repeatedly reverted to the social criticism that has been put forward by various alternative groupings.

But the actual focal point of the discussion was medical assistance that, as was suggested at the congress, must not permit itself to be perverted and downgraded.

Theologian Ute Ranke-Heinemann pointed to the long-established Christian tradition of combining serving the sick and serving under arms.

She suggested that arming for medical help in war had always been — wittingly or unwittingly — arming for war itself.

Christians, she said, had always found ways of evading the fact that their noble and foremost duty of helping the wounded and dying was superseded by the duty to prevent wounds and death in the first place. In the nuclear age, the long practised Christian division of labour in terms of wounding and bandaging must come to an end.

Even top ranking members of the medical profession and the military (as for instance the former inspector of the Bundeswehr medical service, Dr Rebentisch) now openly say that modern weapons of mass destruction make any form of help illusory in a war.

But even so, Doctors Till Bastian, of Heidesheim, and Knut Sroka, of Hamburg, told the meeting, medicine is still rehearsing for disaster.

The medical profession, they said, had entered into an alliance with those in power and this alliance must be broken through civil disobedience.

The war games in which doctors have to engage on orders from the authorities only serve to get the public used to the idea that nuclear wars can be waged, Bastian suggested.

As Sroka, the spokesman for the German branch of IPPNW, sees it, disaster medicine ultimately boils down to offensive preparation for war. Together with civil defence, it is meant to create the illusion of protection and help in case of a nuclear war, he told the meeting.

He said the destruction of this illusion was one of the most important contributions by the doctors' initiative to the peace movement, saying that this was not a bad instrument with which to counter the deployment of new nuclear missiles.

By refusing to train in disaster medicine, doctors should demonstrate that they were not prepared to permit themselves to be abused as a "dehumanised police force" in a nuclear war, he said.

Doctors at the congress were urged to withhold their medical association dues for as long as the association persisted in war policy.

For Sroka, disaster medicine is identical with war medicine and dominated by the inhuman triage principle.

Triage, he said, provided aid for the less severely wounded, leaving the others to their fate.

Even speaking of "civilian" disaster medicine did not disprove this principle. Such labels were no more than a ruse for which the medical profession must not fall, he said.

The final resolution passed summed up the findings of the congress: no medical assistance was possible in a modern war — especially a nuclear war.

All laws and civil defence and disaster medicine exercises served only to promote the illusion of help and protection.

The medical profession must not regard war as an inevitable disease that it was able and called upon to cure. War was a crime perpetrated by people and doctors must help to prevent this crime.

Finally, the resolution called on the entire medical profession to use civil disobedience if the new missiles were deployed.

Rainer Flöhl

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 25 April 1983)

The brain: trying to unlock the secrets of memory

The Zoological Institute of Hohenheim University, Stuttgart, is set to ...ravel the mysteries of memory.

In the late 1960s, the world was ...rilled by reports that American scien...ts had proved in animal experiments ...t there was such a thing as memory ...lecules and that these molecules ...ld be transplanted like kidneys or ...rts.

New visions reminiscent of Franken...in's boldest vistas opened up.

But it proved impossible to repeat the ...periments. Today nobody believes ...y more that memory molecules can ...transplanted.

In our day-to-day lives, we take the ...mory of things long past for granted. ...d people who find themselves unable ...remember a telephone number from ...o moment to the next tend to com...in about their "memory being like a ...ve."

Sometimes we are awed by memory ...ists like last century's Cardinal Mez...fanti, the head of the Vatican Library, ...o was said to have spoken more than ...languages fluently.

We tend to be equally awed by peo... like the writer Arno Schmidt (he ...ed in 1979) who as a young man earn... himself money by appearing as a ...mory artist in pubs, reeling off ...mes and numbers from the telephone ...rectory.

The question is: how is it possible ...at we can today repeat a sentence we ...ard yesterday?

The enormous progress made in the ...lds of electron microscopy, molecular ...ology and biochemistry has also bene...fited brain research.

It had long been suspected that information absorbed by our memory does not freely float around in the brain but has a specific material place in it.

This is substantiated by such common phrases as "this is etched in my memory."

Animal experiments by the zoologist and memory researcher Professor Hinrich Rahmann at Hohenheim University, Stuttgart, over the past ten years show that such sayings can almost be taken literally.

Professor Rahmann and his team exposed goldfish to certain light sensations and stimulated electric fish with electric shocks to trigger learning and memory processes.

While the experiments lasted, the fishes' brains showed a clear change in their structure and a concentration of a specific type of brain substance, ganglioside.

The Stuttgart-Hohenheim researchers believe to have found the substance in which memory literally etches itself, leaving a clear impression: the so-called engram.

Profesor Rahmann speaks of a "molecular memory trace," comparing this with vehicle or ski tracks in open country.

Professor Rahmann: "Information constantly circles in the form of nervous impulses, following specific unchangeable tracks in the network of nerve cells."

Incidentally, this "Hohenheim model" applies only to long-term memory. If does not apply to short-term information that is stored for only six to 25 seconds; nor does it apply to medium-term memory that is stored for up to 24 hours.

Memory is similar to a highly sophisticated computer. Its usefulness depends not only on storing information seen as important; it also depends on discarding and forgetting superfluous data.

Nature thus seems to have done the sensible thing by establishing no "tracks" in the brain at all for data of no importance. This makes it easier to discard unnecessary information.

So far, there have been two major theories on the biological workings of memory: one based on molecular storage and the other on electrical impulse patterns.

The Hohenheim model has adopted features of both and sees truth somewhere in the middle between the two approaches.

The Australian Nobel Prize winner John C. Eccles has come up with the theory that memory and learning processes are maintained by electrical circuits in the brain.

But this theory became questionable following experiments with trained apes whose body temperature was lowered to put them into something akin to hibernation, a state in which all electrical proceses in the brain are discontinued.

When the body temperature of the apes was raised to normal again and the electrical processes in the brain resumed, they still remembered what they had learned before.

This would have been impossible had their memory been solely dependent on electrical brain waves. This suggested that a specific brain substance also played a role in the process.

The American experiments suggested that memory was stored in brain molecules. This was substantiated by an experiment in which the American researchers used rats trained to be afraid of the dark and then transplanted sections of their brains to normal and unafraid rats.

The normal rats suddenly became frightened of the dark. But it subsequently proved impossible to repeat the American experiments elsewhere.

Just as well. Knowledge transplants by scalpel!

The Hohenheim model does not discard the molecule idea but uses it as the "snow in which the skis of memory can leave their tracks." But it is we who have to think and make the tracks.

Professor Rahmann, counselling mental industriousness: "Being undertaxed intellectually is a frequent cause of mental atrophy. By the same token, constant intellectual exercise prevents the premature decline of mental faculties."

But what's so new about it? That's what our teachers at school used to tell us.

Hans Joachim Schyle

(Stuttgarter Nachrichten, 16 April 1983)

■ MODERN LIVING

Technological changes mean injuries at work are harder to define

Industrial safety provision in Germany are a total failure, says trade unionist Reinhold Konstanty.

Industrial safety provisions in Germany are most effective and are held in high repute in other countries, says Hans-Jürgen Bieneck of the Bonn Labour Ministry.

Both men were addressing a conference of the Protestant Church Academy in Loccum, near Hanover, which was attended by specialists in labour medicine, sociologists and trade unionists.

Employers were not represented. Nor were the compulsory work insurance schemes.

The theme was the changing nature of work and, therefore, the changing nature of work-related illness.

Technological progress means that strain on nerves, mind and soul is increasingly replacing wear and tear on bone and muscle.

It is clear that a list of industrial disabilities can no longer be considered an accurate yardstick of strains and stresses in the working world.

The number of industrial injuries reported has steadily declined, from 2.3 million in 1960 to 1.2 million in 1982.

But work-related illnesses over the same period have increased from 31,500 to 33,500 per annum.

This is party due to deafness having been fully acknowledged in the mid-1970s to be what the French call a *déformation professionelle.*

These figures are satisfactory. But the alarming factor is the dramatic increase in the number of people who have been awarded an early pension because of industrial disability.

Last year 48 per cent of pensions newly awarded to men and 53 per cent of pensions to women were awarded ahead of normal retirement age on grounds of work-related disability.

Not every invalid is unable to work because of work-related ailments, of course, but the increase in the number of disability pensions awarded is unquestionably work-related to some extent.

No yardstick

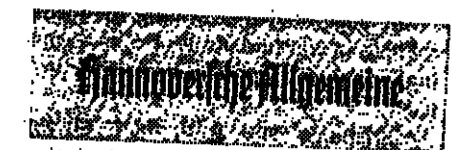
It is a clear indication that the official catalogue of industrial disabilities cannot be regarded as a yardstick of the strain and stress of the working world.

Experts and politicians have accordingly taken to referring to work-related illnesses. In individual instances they are clearly identifiable, but statistically they are extremely difficult to encompass.

Take the case of a warehouse reported by one specialist in labour medicine where a constant draught was created by the coming and going of fork-lift trucks.

Every summer the warehouse staff suffered an above-average number of illnesses of the upper respiratory organs. They were clearly due to working conditions.

The same may be true, although research has to prove the point, in respect of findings by health insurance schemes



with regard to specific trades and industries.

Complaints of the liver are unusually frequent among iron and steel workers, of the respiratory organs among chemical workers, of intestinal disorders in the engineering industry and of neuroses in textiles.

It would be more difficult, even in the individual instance, to establish a link between constant irritation at work and a stomach ulcer.

So the concept of work-related illness is extremely vague, even in official statistical use, because to an alarmingly large extent the cause of a complaint can only tentatively be established.

Inferences may be drawn and assumptions reached, but they are not hard facts. Nor are the findings of opinion polls in which people are asked how they feel at work.

Mention was made, at a conference on safety at work held at the Hanover Fair, of the white-collar worker who sits all day at a computer display screen and watches TV all evening.

In his case, it was noted, it would be hard to say whether poor vision and bad legs were due to work or leisure, and uncertainty of this kind leads to a wide range of interpretations.

Views voiced at Loccum ranged from experts who claimed that working conditions could only be changed by means of solidarity among everyone affected to demands for workers to be given a greater say in their work.

Doctors, it was said, really ought to ask their patients what conditions were like at work, both generally and for them in particular.

Medical councils ought also to give the profession a much more thorough grounding in working conditions and wear and tear today.

Much time for discussion at Loccum was taken up by the time-honoured debate on whether more legislation or stricter enforcement of existing legislation was needed, especially in view of the cost.

As a result, other fundamental issues were sadly neglected. Surprisingly little mention was made of data protection, for instance.

Long-term observation and surveillance of staff are known to be the only way of finding out for sure the physical and chemical effect of working conditions and work schedules.

Such statistics are needed for research and by health insurance schemes. But how is one to [...] they do not get into the wr[...] Surely that would have been [...] mention.

Another point that might h[...] made at greater length was the [...] need for a freer choice of doct[...] sessor.

Works doctors seem to rest[...] activities to an unconscionable [...] giving newcomers to a compa[...] cal checks.

A further aspect that was ne[...] Loccum was the successes and [...] of a wide range of medical ch[...] the worker's right to know the [...] of checks of this kind.

It was disconcerting to note [...] disregard for the crucial issue [...] dern health precautions: the [...] which the individual can influ[...] or her well-being.

Ambition dange[...]

This can mean choosing the [...] sign of desk and chair. It can [...] learning to put breaks to good [...] everyone is capable of relaxing [...] something else during a break.

People must also realise that [...] nate personal ambition, dissa[...] and constant clashes with work[...] the boss can be more dangerous [...] monotonous job.

Reducing health risks at w[...] never be restricted to technic[...] technocratic issues.

Reinha[...]

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 2[...])

One disadvantage to early retirement: it can kill

Bonn University psychologists have spent over 17 years keeping an eye on 220 old people to find out how to reach a ripe old age and stay healthy in body and mind.

Professor Ursula Lehr says it is work that keeps many peoply young. She is strongly against retirement at 60 or 55 as a means a reducing unemployment.

Because work is such a stimulus she favours allowing anyone who wants to carry on working after reaching retirement age to do so.

The Bonn survey disproves once and for all the old adage that work is a killer. Work began when Adam and Eve were banished from Paradise, according to the Old Testament.

But is it a blessing or a curse? Professor Lehr's findings indicate that it is more likely to be a godsend:

"The greater a person's physical, mental and social activity, the more likely he or she is to reach a ripe old age in good health. Work longer and you will live longer."

Work not only earns a living; it also gives us the feeling of being needed and not belonging on the scrap heap. It establishes contcts and enables us to exchange ideas with others.

Early retirement, the Bonn gerontologist argues, can be a curse for most people. The existing pensionable age can be a problem for many:

"A fair number of people grow ill on retirement, which can even be a killer: loneliness and boredom can prove fatal."

STUTTGARTER NACHRICHTEN

Professor Lehr has taken a closer look at polls which are claimed to prove that most people keenly look forward to retirement:

"The more remote a prospect retirement is, the more enthusiastic people are about it. But once retired, people soon realise that sleep, travel and hobbies are not enough. Many pensioners are desperately keen to find work."

Many of today's 60-year-olds were not taught as young people how to handle leisure. Thirty-year-olds should have less trouble.

Professor Lehr is convinced the way retirement is handled is totally wrong:

"It is a tough change to switch from work to retirement from one day to the next. Flexible change-over and a gradual adjustment are preferable.

"Let people first work six or four hours a day, or four days a week, and they will have time to get accustomed to the idea."

The Bonn survey revealed that there were 65-year-olds whose behaviour and performance were those of 40-year-olds and 30-year-olds who behaved like 70-year-olds:

"Calendar age proves little. That is why everyone ought to be able to decide for themselves when to retire.

"There are sure to be people who would be happy to retire at 55; I can well imagine shift-workers i[...] steelworks feeling this way."

But if people were compuls[...] sioned at 60 or 55 she feels mo[...] would look for a fresh job, m[...] ing if need be.

"A 60-year-old today," she s[...] expect to live another 20 years [...] rage. Twenty years spent doing [...] are simply intolerable."

So early retirement seems [...] as a bid to create jobs for une[...] youngsters. Besides, it is doubt[...] ther the economy can afford to [...] with the knowledge and expe[...] 50- to 60-year-olds.

"Many firms would not hi[...] people to replace others retired [...] Professor Lehr claims. "They [...] simply take the opportunity [...] down their payroll."

Besides, the cost of early reti[...] anyone's guess, and: "I don't m[...] pensions. Many a 60-year-old [...] ed to the scrap heap will tend [...] pieces.

"What we save in unemploym[...] nefit for the young we may end [...] ing to spend on extra medical [...] older people."

Early pensioners would de[...] need to be offered alternative [...] in, say, the welfare sector:

"But the law as it stands ofte[...] this out. In Cologne a pensioner [...] to work free of charge in the pu[...] brary, but his offer had to be [...] down."

Professor Lehr is convinced th[...] alternative to early retirement [...] means of sharing less work amo[...] people is preferable.

The options include shorter w[...] days and weeks, more leave and [...] range of part-time work.

Horst Zimmer[...]

(Stuttgarter Nachrichten, 8 Ap[...])

OUR WORLD

Directory inquiries gives out much more than just numbers

DER TAGESSPIEGEL

[T]he directory inquiries service (118 in Berlin) provides much more than [tele]phone numbers.

[C]hildren ask how to spell words. [St]rangers ask about hotels that are too expensive.

[O]thers call just to have a talk. [S]ome are inarticulate old ladies. [Oth]ers are arrogant tycoons. There may [be] the occasional spastic who has diffi[culty] talking to an ordinary drunk. [A]nd then there are the obscene call[s].

Irmgard Ückermann has been an [oper]ator with the Berlin service for 10 [years].

[S]he answers about 35 calls an hour [and] often gets obscene calls. There are [s]o many now that information calls [are] no longer free. They now cost the [same] as other calls.

[Fr]au Ückermann takes off the ear[ph]ones when the obscenities begin. [Whe]n a voice is recognised, attempts [are] made to trace the call and bring in [the] police.

[Bu]t a spokesman for the service says [tha]t only rarely is the offender tracked [dow]n.

[B]erlin has about 300 operators on the [inf]ormation service. They are trained to [ha]ndle all sorts of situation.

Most are women. There is a sprinkling of about 20 men, mostly university students.

About half the operators are part-time, which suits the postal authority because the workload varies.

It is impossible to establish a duty roster that will completely cover the peak hours because the employees must work continuously and because peaks frequently depend on current events, sys the spokesman.

A major fire, for instance, brings many calls from people who want to know the telephone numbers of friends and acquaintances.

"Then everything goes haywire. The girls not only have to put up with the sheer volume of work but also with such rude remarks as 'Have you been busy making coffee again? Typical government service'."

The index card days are long over, the service now uses microfilms that store about 270 pages of a telephone directory on a single film strip. At each seat a monitor screen displays the information.

According to post office figures, the operating cost per information unit is DM2.50. This is amply made up by the charges for the subsequent telephone call to the number given.

The operation is still a long way from a system in France where the telephone book can be called up on to the inquirer's TV screen. So Irmgard Ückermann will have to continue to put up with being asked on Saturday evenings: "Do you know the football results?" Often, the operator does.

(Der Tagesspiegel, 24 April 1983)

CUSTOMS

(Cartoon: Hans-Horst Bartak/Süddeutsche Zeitung)

Customs officers learn to humour the angry traveller

Public complaints against customs officers have dropped off sharply since a special course in psychology was introduced, say the customs authorities.

The course aim is to reduce the number of holidaymakers who become irritated at customs checks, especially after waiting in long queues.

The curriculum puts a heavy emphasis on person-to-person contact. Officers are told self-assertion is a natural drive. Remember this, and give the other person a chance to save face.

When queues of cars at border checkpoints become several miles long and when jumbo jets disgorge hundreds of passengers, "it is only natural for travellers to be fuming by the time they reach the customs officer," says Hans-Dietrich Schatz, the head of the Customs Training Centre in Düsseldorf.

The psychology seminar on the treatment of travellers at border checkpoints has this piece of advice among others: "A business tycoon arriving at a border checkpoint with his secretary in tow often feels slighted when he is made to open his suitcase."

"So humour him by telling him that the check is not directed at him personally but is simply part of a customs officer's job."

Schatz: "If a customs officer doesn't understand this, he must be given some other job where he doesn't deal with the public."

Chief Customs Inspector Gunnar Lopotz, who is in charge of the seminars, spent a week observing customs procedure at Germany's busiest charter airport, Düsseldorf.

He later said that many travellers had told him that they had more understanding for the customs officers' work since the Tabatabai affair (involving a high-ranking Iranian official who smuggled opium into this country).

Generally, customs officers have little sympathy for travellers who point to their personal importance.

An ex-state minister from southern Germany complained loudly because customs officers at Düsseldorf airport had asked him to open his bags. He maintained that they should have known from his baggage and from his way of dressing that he was a man of standing.

Psychology teacher Lopotz is particularly insistent that his pupils should not let themselves smirk when catching some innocuous traveller bringing in extra alcohol or a carton or two of cigarettes.

This type of smuggling has become a sort of sport and must be seen in that light, says Chief Inspector Lopotz: "If a light went on every time a vacationer off a jumbo jet passes the customs checks with smuggled goods we could do away with the lighting in this airport."

dpa

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 15 April 1983)

Pretty penny for a holiday copper

Hermann Voss, the founder of Germany's first house minding agency, in St. Peter-Ording, says there is a burglary every 22 seconds in Germany.

His business, which is based on a British idea, benefits from the public's fear of being burgled — and is thriving.

The service he provides is simple: Wealthy people pay for their home to be guarded during their holidays.

The guard, paid DM200 a week, is usually a retired policeman — Voss has found out that this is what his customers want.

The guard, frequently with wife and dog, makes himself at home. He waters the plants, feeds the aquarium fish, the guinea pig and the canary.

He might even help with redecorating work from which the home-owner has fled.

He is entitled to two heated rooms, but for the rest he has to put up with some restrictions. He may have visitors until 10 p.m. but parties are banned.

He may leave the house for three hours during daylight hours and for one hour at night. He has to be polite to the neighbours — no matter how unpleasant they may be.

If the owner returns and finds that his house through accident has been reduced to a smouldering ruin, he can relax — the agency has taken out insurance.

Hermann Voss' agency not only looks after property but also puts criminals in a fix: If his idea catches on burglars would have to steer clear of the homes of the rich and make do with the homes of retired policemen.

Ulrich Stock

(Die Zeit, 22 April 1983)